

William Hamilton

127

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION!!

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

WILLIAMSPORT CONVENTION,

EMBRACING THE

SPIRITED DEBATES, GIVEN GRAPHICALLY;

TESTIMONY IN RELATION TO THE ATTEMPT TO BRIBE TWO OF THE
DELEGATES;

AND OTHER INTERESTING PARTICULARS OF THE OCCASION.

Fiat justitia, ruat cælum.

REPORTED BY W. E. DRAKE,

REPORTER TO THE LEGISLATURE.

PHILADELPHIA:

PUBLISHED BY W. B. ZIEBER, No. 3 SOUTH THIRD STREET.

CAMPBELL & POWER, No. 20 SOUTH FIFTH STREET.

W. A. LEARY & CO., No. 138 NORTH SECOND STREET; AND OTHER BOOKSELLERS.

1850.

C. SHERMAN, PRINTER.

REPORT

OF THE WILLIAMSPORT CONVENTION.

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

THE Democratic State Convention for the purpose of nominating Canal Commissioner, Auditor-General, and Surveyor-General, met at the Court-House, in the beautiful borough of Williamsport, Lycoming County, on Wednesday, the 29th of May, 1850.

The body was temporarily organized, at eleven o'clock A. M., on motion of David Lynch, Esq., by the appointment of General A. P. Wilson, of Huntingdon, as President, and William Jack, of Westmoreland County, W. H. Fagan, of Philadelphia County, and Thomas W. Grayson, of Washington County, as Secretaries.

The credentials of the different delegates were examined, and those not disputed were admitted to seats.

SENATORIAL DELEGATES.

1. Philadelphia City—Michael M'Nenny, Daniel Haviland.
2. Philadelphia County—James W. T. M'Alister, William Henwood, Wm. H. Fagan.
3. Montgomery—Geo. W. Jacoby.
4. Chester and Delaware—Dr. Wilmer Worthington.
5. Berks—Joel Ritter.
6. Bucks—Paul Applebaugh.
7. Lancaster and Lebanon—Cyrus Zimmerman, Reah Frazer.
8. Schuylkill, Carbon, and Monroe—B. S. Schoonover.
9. Northampton and Lehigh—Thomas Slater.
10. Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming—W. C. Ward.
11. Bradford and Tioga—Samuel Dickerson.
12. Lycoming, Clinton, Sullivan, and Centre—Dr. Ira D. Canfield.
13. Luzerne and Columbia—Wesley Roat.
14. Northumberland and Dauphin—William L. Dewart.
15. Mifflin, Juniata, and Union—William P. Cooper.
16. Perry and Cumberland—George Blattenberger.
17. York—James M. Anderson.
18. Franklin and Adams—Joel B. Danner.
19. Huntingdon, Bedford, and Blair—Gen. A. P. Wilson.
20. Clearfield, Indiana, Cambria, and Armstrong—R. P. Linton.
21. Westmoreland and Somerset—Col. William Jack.
22. Fayette and Greene—Wesley Frost, Esq.
23. Washington—John Graham.
24. Allegheny and Butler—H. S. Magraw.
25. Beaver, Mercer, and Lawrence—John M'Guffin.
26. Crawford and Venango—Vincent Phelps.
27. Erie—John Galbraith.
28. Warren, Jefferson, Clarion, Potter, and M'Kean—John Hastings.

REPRESENTATIVE DELEGATES.

Adams—William R. Stewart.
 Allegheny—C. Barnett, D. Lynch, Dr. A. Black.
 Armstrong—Joseph Bullman.
 Bradford—B. Laporte, E. O. Goodrich.
 Bedford—Joseph Filler, Hiram Lentz.
 Beaver—D. Bois, Thomas J. Power.
 Berks—B. Tyson, L. Fronk, George Smith, A. M. Sallade.
 Blair—(Disputed.)
 Butler—Amos Meylert.
 Bucks—Noah Schull, David Evans, Caleb E. Wright.
 Crawford—William Porter, W. M'Laughlin.
 Centre and Clearfield—Wm. H. Blair, W. H. Moore.
 Chester—Wm. M'Veigh, John Hickman, G. W. Pierce.
 Columbia—Capt. J. S. Fullmer.
 Cumberland—Samuel Woodburn, James C. Dunlap.
 Cambria—Augustin Durbin.
 Delaware—Philip Morris, Jr.
 Dauphin—Thomas B. M'Cord, Jeremiah Harmer.
 Erie—James Thompson, George H. Culler.
 Fayette—Wm. Hatfield, Daniel Kaine.
 Franklin—G. W. Brewer.
 Greene—Maxwell M'Caslin.
 Huntingdon—Maj. Thomas P. Campbell.
 Indiana—Edward Carlton.
 Jefferson, Clarion and Venango—Hon. A. Plumer, W. T. Alexander.
 Lebanon—Cyrus Carmony.
 Lehigh and Carbon—W. H. Butler, Sol. Fogle.
 Luzerne—E. F. Seybert, Wm. Koons.
 Lancaster—Jacob M. Amwake, John M. Dunlap, Charles M. Johnson, John
 Houston, James Boon.
 Lycoming, Clinton, and Potter—O. Watson, Charles Lyman.
 Mifflin—Joseph Alexander.
 Montgomery—J. C. Smith, A. H. Tippin, Spencer Shoemaker.
 Mercer—John Hoge, W. S. Garvin.
 Northumberland—Wm. Fullmer.
 Northampton and Munroe—R. E. James, W. H. Hutter, S. Shoemaker.
 Perry—Joseph Baily.
 Philadelphia City—Peter. Cullan, Charles J. Burns, John Scott, Dr. Thomas J.
 P. Stokes, Dr. W. P. Lambert.
 Philadelphia County—John Abrams, William Green, John Uber, John G. Bren-
 ner, Dennis Lamont, C. L. Carpenter, J. S. Donahue, Jesse H. Flittercraft.
 Schuylkill—Michael Weaver, Charles Frailey.
 Somerset—(Vacancy.)
 Susquehanna and Wyoming—C. M. Gere.
 Tioga—Edward Maynard.
 Washington—John Moore, Richard Donaldson.
 Westmoreland—John Fausold, James Keenan, Jr., John Snodgrass.
 Warren and M'Kean—James L. Gillis.
 Wayne and Pike—Charles F. Spering.
 Union and Juniata—James K. Davis, E. D. Crawford.
 York—James E. Buchanan, Robert Gemmill, John Hurst.

Mr. Wright offered the following resolution, which was twice read:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed, consisting of a number equal to the number of Senators to which said districts are entitled, for the purpose of selecting officers for the permanent organization of the Convention.

Mr. Danner moved to amend the resolution, by adding thereto the following:

"And that the delegates from each of the several Senatorial districts name one of their own number as a member of said committee."

Mr. Fronk moved to postpone the amendment, together with the resolution, for the present.

Which was agreed to—yeas, 68; nays, 58.

On motion of Mr. Butler, the Convention proceeded to consider the case of the contested seat as representative delegate from Blair County; Mr. H. L. Patterson and Mr. Adam Moses being the contestants.

The seat of Mr. Patterson was contested by Mr. Moses, upon the ground of alleged informalities, &c.; in the proceedings of the County Convention. Testimony was produced on both sides, and a desultory discussion took place, which was participated in by Messrs. Moses (who obtained leave to speak), Patterson, Stokes, Snodgrass, Campbell, Dewart, Frailey, Magraw, and Hickman.

Mr. Magraw moved that both the claimants be admitted to seats in the Convention.

Mr. Campbell moved to amend by striking out the motion, and inserting that H. L. Patterson be admitted to a seat as a delegate.

Mr. Hickman moved to further amend by striking out the amendment, and inserting, "that both the claimants to seats be rejected."

Pending the question on the amendment to the amendment, the Convention, on motion, adjourned until 3 o'clock, P.M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

On motion of Mr. Danner, the rules adopted by the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania for their government were also adopted in reference to this Convention.

The Convention then resumed the unfinished business, it being the contested seats of the delegates from Blair. The question recurring upon the amendment of Mr. Hickman, to reject both the delegates, it was negatived, after a few remarks from Messrs. Brewer, Magraw, and Lambert—yeas, 59; nays, 63.

The question then recurring on the amendment admitting Henry L. Patterson to a seat as a delegate in the Convention,

The yeas and nays were taken, and the question was determined in the negative—yeas, 57; nays, 66.

And the original motion, admitting both claimants to seats, being before the Convention,

A motion was made by Mr. Magraw to amend the same, so as to give the two claimants but one vote on any motion, resolution, or for any candidate.

Mr. Thompson moved to postpone the amendment and motion indefinitely. Agreed to.

The resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee to select officers for the permanent organization of the Convention, was called up.

Mr. Johnston moved the following as a substitute for the amendment and resolution:

Resolved, That the senatorial delegates of this Convention constitute a committee to select officers for its permanent organization.

The question being taken thereon, it was determined in the negative—yeas 39, nays 87.

The amendment and resolution were then agreed to, giving the delegates from the several senatorial districts the privilege of selecting one delegate from each district to compose the committee.

The Convention here took a recess for half an hour.

On reassembling, the members from the several senatorial districts, except the Bucks, and the Bradford and Tioga districts, reported the names of the following gentlemen to compose the committee to select officers of the Convention, viz.:

John Snodgrass—Westmoreland and Somerset; Alexander W. Black, Amos N. Meylert—Allegheny and Butler; J. C. Dunlap—Cumberland and Perry; Richard Donaldson—Washington; R. E. James—Northampton and Lehigh; James E. Buchanan—York; John Houston, Cyrus Carmony—Lancaster and Lebanon; Thomas B. M'Cord—Dauphin and Northumberland; W. S. Garvin—Beaver, Mercer, and Lawrence; Andrew H. Tippin—Montgomery; Joel B. Danner—Adams and Franklin; Wm. Green—Third Senatorial District, Philadelphia County; James W. T. M'Alister—First District, Philadelphia County; Charles L. Carpenter—Fourth District, Philadelphia County; E. Carlton—Indiana, Armstrong, &c.; Maxwell M'Caslin—Fayette and Greene; John Hickman—Chester and Delaware;

Ira D. Canfield—Centre, Lycoming, &c.; Hiram Lentz—Bedford, Blair, and Huntingdon; C. J. Burns, Daniel Haviland—Philadelphia City; George Smith—Berks; B. S. Schoonover—Schuylkill, Carbon, &c.; W. C. Ward—Susquehanna, &c.; Wm. Koons—Columbia and Luzerne; J. K. Davis—Mifflin, Juniata, &c.; Vincent Phelps—Crawford and Venango; George H. Cutler—Erie; W. T. Alexander—Warren, Jefferson, and M'Kean; B. Laporte—Bradford and Tioga; C. E. Wright—Bucks.

Mr. Magraw moved that the President of the Convention appoint a committee man from those districts where the delegates themselves cannot agree; which was adopted.

The President appointed Mr. Wright for the Bucks district, and Mr. Laporte for the Bradford district.

The Convention then, on motion, took a recess till 5 o'clock.

On reassembling, Mr. Wright, from the committee on officers, reported the names of the following gentlemen as officers of the Convention, viz.:

President.—HENRY S. MAGRAW, of Allegheny.

Vice-Presidents.—John Fausold, James Keenan, Wm. C. Ward, Joseph Bailey, Solomon Fogle, James M. Anderson, Wm. L. Dewart, David Boies, George W. Jacoby, Dr. Wm. R. Stewart, John S. Donahue, Wm. Henwood, Dennis Lamont, Robert P. Linton, Wesley Frost, Major M'Veigh, Wm. H. Blair, Joseph Filler, Dr. T. J. P. Stokes, Dr. Wm. Penn Lambert, Benjamin Tyson, Wm. H. Butler, John Coyle, J. S. Fullmer, Wm. P. Cooper, Arnold Plumer, J. Galbraith, James L. Gillis, Col. S. Dickerson, Noah Schull, John Moore, Cyrus Zimmerman, Samuel Woodburn.

Secretaries.—Wm. Jack, A. N. Meylert, R. E. James, Geo. W. Pierce, Geo. W. Brewer, C. M. Johnston, Charles Barnett, Robert Gemmill, Wm. H. Fagan, Geo. S. Carter, Joel Ritter, Spencer Shoemaker, T. W. Grayson, Thomas B. M'Cord: Which report was adopted.

Mr. Magraw having taken the chair as President of the Convention, said:

GENTLEMEN—For the very distinguished honour you have thought proper to confer upon me, I beg to return you my sincere and heartfelt thanks. The responsibilities of the station to which you have elevated me by your kind partiality, are duly and sensibly appreciated, and I enter upon the discharge of them under a full conviction that, in my efforts and anxious desire to fulfil them faithfully, I shall be excused for the many imperfections consequent upon the inexperience of one, who, for the first time, has been called to preside over a deliberative body. I, therefore, gentlemen, rely on your aid and kind indulgence for any want of familiarity I may exhibit in regard to the rules which should govern our deliberations.

The importance of our convening here is sufficiently indicated by the number of delegates in attendance from all parts of the State, and the interest manifested thus far in our proceedings.

Gentlemen—the progress of democratic policy has snatched from Executive power the appointment of two very important offices in this great Commonwealth, and vested it in the people, the source of all power. And, now, we are called upon, not only to nominate a candidate for Canal Commissioner, but also to put in nomination candidates for Auditor-General and Surveyor-General. From the number of excellent names submitted, I entertain no doubt that we shall select men who, from their abilities, respectability, and integrity, will command the confidence and votes of the people. Having performed our duty in making these nominations, another equally important will devolve upon us, and that is, to set forth a declaration of the principles of the Democratic party, and proclaim them to our constituents and to the world, before entering upon the contest before us. I trust that there are none amongst us who look upon the organization of the Democratic party as a mere office-conferring machine. If there be such, we should commend them to unite with that organization which, in 1848, after nominating their candidates for the highest offices in the gift of this nation, were either ashamed or afraid to avow before the country the principles upon which they expected to elect them.

Before closing my remarks, let me express the hope that harmony and good feeling may characterize all the proceedings of this Convention, and that we may shortly bring our labours to a close, and return to our constituents with such nominations as will unite the party and secure success at the approaching election. (Great applause.)

[Here the Vice-Presidents took their seats on the right and left of the President.]

Mr. Campbell moved that the Convention proceed to the nomination of candidates for Canal Commissioner.

Mr. Keenan moved to amend so as to commence with Surveyor-General and Auditor-General, which was not agreed to.

And the motion of Mr. Campbell was agreed to.

NOMINATIONS.

Mr. Hickman nominated	Nimrod Strickland.
Sallada	" Edward B. Hubley.
Johnson	" Peter Martin.
Donaldson	" F. Vanzant.
Shoemaker	" W. T. Morison.
Brenner	" W. S. Hallowell.
Phelps	" Seth Clover.
Hutter	" John H. Brodhead.
Crawford	" Everard Oles.
Fullmer	" William Wilson.
Porter	" Geo. Merriman.
Campbell	" Jno. Cresswell.

Mr. Dewart withdrew the name of William Wilson from the list of nominations.

On motion of Mr. Dewart, the Convention proceeded to vote for Canal Commissioner.

FIRST BALLOT.

Messrs. Anderson, Boies, Brewer, Buchanan, Canfield, Davis, Dewart, J. C. Dunlap, Durbin, Filler, Frailey, Fogle, Fronk, Frost, W. Fullmer, Gemmill, Graham, Harner, Hatfield, Hursh, Lentz, Linton, M'Cord, Maynard, Power, Ritter, Geo. Smith, Sallada, Stewart, Tyson, Weaver, Watson, and Woodburn, voted for EDWARD B. HUBLEY—33.

Messrs. Bailey, Barnett, Black, Blattenberger, Bullman, Carmony, Coyle, Danner, Fausold, Gere, Goodrich, Hickman, Jack, Keenan, Kaine, Koons, Laporte, Lynch, M'Laughlin, M'Veigh, Magraw, Morris, Overfield, Pierce, Porter, Seybert, Snodgrass, Ward, Worthington, and Zimmerman, voted for NIMROD STRICKLAND—30.

Messrs. Abram, Jos. Alexander, Burns, Butler, Carpenter, Cullan, Donaldson, Fagan, Flittercraft, Grayson, Haviland, Henwood, Lambert, Lamont, M'Nenny, M'Allister, J. Moore, Scott, Schull, Stokes, Uber, and Wright, voted for FRANKLIN VANZANT—22.

Messrs. W. T. Alexander, Blair, Carlton, Cutler, Garvin, Galbraith, Gillis, Hastings, Hoge, Lyman, D. W. Moore, M'Guffin, Plumer, Phelps, and Thompson, voted for SETH CLOVER—15.

Messrs. Applebaugh, Dickerson, Evans, J. S. Fullmer, Jacoby, Meylert, Roat, Shoemaker, J. C. Smith, and A. H. Tippin, voted for WM. T. MORISON—10.

Messrs. Amwake, Boon, J. M. Dunlap, Frazer, Houston, and Johnson, voted for PETER MARTIN—6.

Messrs. Brenner, Donahue, and Green, voted for WM. S. HALLOWELL.

Messrs. Coolbaugh, Hutter, James, Sletor, Schoonover, and Spring, voted for JOHN H. BRODHEAD—6.

Messrs. Campbell, and Wilson, voted for JOHN CRESSWELL.

Messrs. Crawford, and Cooper, voted for EVERARD OLES.

Neither of the candidates having a majority of all the votes, the Convention proceeded to the

SECOND BALLOT,

When 38 votes were cast for Mr. HUBLEY; Messrs. Applebaugh, Carlton, Evans, Gillis, Hoge, and M'Guffin, having for the first time voted for him.

Mr. STRICKLAND received 32 votes; Mr. Donahue and Mr. Green voting for him, in addition to those who had previously voted.

Mr. VANZANT received 23 votes ; Messrs. M'Caslin and Wilson casting their votes for him.

Messrs. W. T. Alexander, Blair, Cutler, Garvin, Galbraith, Hastings, Lyman, D. W. Moore, Porter, Plumer, and Thompson, voted for SETH CLOVER—11.

Messrs. Butler, Dickerson, J. S. Fullmer, Jacoby, Meylert, Roat, Shoemaker, J. C. Smith, and Tippin, voted for WM. T. MORISON—9.

Messrs. Amwake, Boon, J. M. Dunlap, Frazer, Houston, and Johnson, voted for PETER MARTIN—6.

Mr. Brenner voted for WM. S. HALLOWELL.

Mr. Campbell voted for JOHN CRESSWELL.

Messrs. Cooper and Crawford voted for EVERARD OLES.

Messrs. Coolbaugh, Hutter, James, Sletor, Schoonover, and Spering, voted for JNO. H. BRODHEAD.

No election.

THIRD BALLOT.

Mr. HUBLEY received 42 votes—Messrs. J. Alexander, Butler, Garvin, and Phelps, voted for him.

Mr. STRICKLAND received 34 votes—Mr. Blair voting with the gentlemen who had before cast their votes the same way.

Mr. VANZANT received 23 votes—Mr. Schoonover voting in place of Mr. J. Alexander.

Messrs. Wm. T. Alexander, Cutler, Galbraith, Hastings, Lyman, Moore, Porter, Plumer, and Thompson, voted for SETH CLOVER—9.

Messrs. Dickerson, J. S. Fullmer, Jacoby, Meylert, Roat, Shoemaker, J. C. Smith, and Tippin, voted for W. T. MORISON—8.

Messrs. Amwake, Boon, Dunlap, Frazer, Houston, and Johnson, voted for PETER MARTIN—6.

Messrs. Coolbaugh, Hutter, James, and Spering, voted for JOHN H. BRODHEAD—4.

Messrs. Cooper and Crawford voted for EVERARD OLES.

John G. Brenner voted for W. S. HALLOWELL.

Major T. Campbell voted for JOHN CRESSWELL.

No choice.

FOURTH BALLOT.

Mr. HUBLEY received 44 votes, two of which were cast by Messrs. Brenner and Porter.

Mr. STRICKLAND received 39 votes, five of which were cast by Messrs. Dunlap, Frazer, Houston, Hutter, and James.

Messrs. Abram, Burns, Carpenter, Cullan, Donaldson, Fagan, Flittcraft, Grayson, Haviland, Henwood, Lambert, Lamont, M'Nenny, M'Allister, M'Caslin, Moore, Scott, Schull, Stokes, Uber, Wilson and Wright, voted for F. VANZANT—22.

Messrs. W. T. Alexander, Cutler, Galbraith, Hastings, Lyman, Plumer and Thompson, voted for SETH CLOVER—7.

Messrs. Dickerson, J. S. Fullmer, Jacoby, Meylert, Moore, Roat, Shoemaker, Schoonover, J. C. Smith and Tippin, voted for W. T. MORISON—10.

Messrs. Amwake, Boon and Johnson, voted for PETER MARTIN.

Messrs. Cooper and Crawford, voted for EVERARD OLES.

Messrs. A. V. Coolbaugh and Charles F. Spering voted for John H. BRODHEAD.

Major T. Campbell voted for JOHN CRESSWELL.

Neither of the candidates having a majority of the votes, there was no nomination.

Mr. Spering withdrew the name of John H. Brodhead from the list of candidates.

Mr. Frazer moved that a committee of seven be appointed to draft resolutions for the consideration of the Convention.

Mr. Schoonover moved to amend by striking out "seven," and inserting "thirty-three."

Mr. Johnson moved further to amend by striking out "thirty-three," and inserting "nine." Agreed to.

And the motion, as thus amended, was agreed to.

The President appointed Messrs. Frazer, of Lancaster; Ritter, of Berks; Hutter, of Northampton; Wilson, of Huntingdon; Lynch, of Allegheny; Thompson, of Erie; Plumer, of Venango; Kaine, of Fayette; and Danner, of Adams; as said committee.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, MAY 30.—SECOND DAY.

The Convention reassembled at 8 o'clock, A. M., when—

Mr. Brewer moved that Colonel Samuel Woodburn, of Cumberland County, be added to the number of Vice-Presidents, inasmuch as he was a veteran in the cause, and as a compliment to himself and the county of Cumberland, in which he had signalized himself by his unremitting and active exertions in behalf of the Democratic party. Agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Dewart, the name of Thomas B. M'Cord was added to the list of Secretaries to the Convention.

Mr. Porter withdrew the name of GEORGE MERRIMAN from the list of candidates for nomination for Canal Commissioner.

Mr. Hastings withdrew the name of SETH CLOVER.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot for *Canal Commissioner*, which resulted as stated in the following table:

Ballots.	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th
Hubley,	49	53	53	53	52	52	51	53	53
Strickland,	36	41	45	46	45	45	47	46	44
Vanzant,	23	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	19
Morison,	11	10	9	9	12	10	10	10	11
Martin,	2	2	1	1		1	1	1	1
Cresswell	1	2				2			1
Oles,	6	2 (withdrawn.)							

The Convention then, on motion of Mr. Dewart, adjourned till 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention met at 2 o'clock, when the following ballots were had for Canal Commissioner:

Ballots.	14th	15th	16th	17th
Hubley,	54	56	55	58
Strickland,	43	44	44	43
Vanzant,	22	23	23	21
Morison,	9	6	7	5
Martin,	1	1	1	1
Cresswell,				2

CHANGES.

On the fourteenth ballot, Messrs. Blair, D. W. Moore, and Plumer, voted for VANZANT.

Mr. Campbell for STRICKLAND.

Mr. Carpenter for HUBLEY.

On the fifteenth ballot, Mr. J. S. Fullmer voted for VANZANT.

Messrs. Maynard and J. C. Smith for HUBLEY.

Mr. Roat, for STRICKLAND.

On the sixteenth ballot, Mr. D. W. Moore voted for MORISON.

Mr. Wilson, for VANZANT.

On the seventeenth ballot, Messrs. J. S. Fullmer, Hastings, and Dickerson, voted for HUBLEY.

Messrs. Campbell and Wilson for CRESSWELL.

There being no choice, Mr. Snodgrass moved that the nomination of Canal Commissioner be postponed, for the purpose of proceeding to the nomination of candidate for Auditor-General.

Mr. Hickman was understood to say, amid the noise that prevailed at the moment, that there was a charge in circulation of something being wrong, and if they postponed the business then before the Convention, the effect would be to strengthen that report.

Mr. Frailey objected to postponement, because it might induce the belief that something wrong was to be committed. He knew of no reason why the Convention should postpone the business before it proceed to the consideration of anything else. He knew nothing of any bargain and sale, if any there was.

Hon. Jas. Thompson said it was out of order to debate the merits of the question. [Several gentleman here rose to a question of order.]

Mr. Snodgrass.—If we go on to nominate an Auditor-General and a Surveyor-General, I am not for going—

Mr. Campbell (interrupting).—We are willing at all times to come here and vote as we please, representing the Democracy of the country, as we do, I trust, faithfully, regardless of insinuations about bribery and corruption. And, sir, I hope there is nobody here representing such an interest. [Great laughter.]

The motion to postpone was lost—yeas, 55; nays, 72.

Mr. Coyle then moved to postpone the subject of nominating Canal Commissioner, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Surveyor-General.

Mr. Gillis demanded a division of the question.

Upon the first division, viz.: on postponing the nomination of Canal Commissioner for the present, the question was determined in the negative—yeas, 60; nays, 64.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot, as follows:

	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.
Hubley,	56	57	59	59
Strickland,	41	33	32	32
Vanzant,	26	34	33	37
Morison,	2	2	2	1
Martin,	2	2	1	1
Cresswell,	1		3	

On the eighteenth ballot, Messrs. J. S. Fullmer, W. P. Cooper, Green, Crawford, and Wilson voted for Vanzant.

Mr. D. W. Moore, for Martin.

On the nineteenth ballot, Mr. Wilson voted for Hubley.

Messrs. Dickerson, Lyman, Bullman, Donahue, Gere, Goodrich, Campbell, Laporte, and Roat, for Vanzant.

On the twentieth ballot, Messrs. Blair, Campbell, and Wilson voted for Cresswell.

Messrs. Lyman and Dickerson, for Hubley.

Mr. D. W. Moore, for Vanzant.

On the twenty-first ballot, Messrs. Shoemaker, and Campbell voted for Strickland.

Messrs. Wilson and Tippin, for Hubley.

Messrs. Blair, Hastings, Johnson, Kaine, and Lynch, for Vanzant.

After the twenty-first ballot, the Convention then adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock this evening.

EVENING SESSION.

Mr. Hickman of Chester rose, and said: Immediately upon the adjournment of the Convention he had, in consequence of the last two ballots, felt it his duty to call upon Judge Strickland, to consult him upon the course which it would be proper for his friends to pursue. Judge Strickland's name had been placed before this Convention in connexion with the office of Canal Commissioner, and he had been sustained by a large portion of the delegates from the State. He had been nominated as a candidate by the Democracy of the county of Chester, and that *there* they were, as a party, a unit, acknowledging neither clique nor faction, but the whole party in its entirety and in its integrity. The friends of Judge Strickland claimed for him, honesty of purpose and more than ordinary degree of intel-

ligence, whilst his fitness for the office to which he had been nominated seems conceded even by the friends of other candidates. He had been firmly and steadily sustained by his friends in the Convention through a protracted effort to effect a nomination. They had adhered to him with a devotion to his interest that left no cause of complaint; and although he would not now be formally withdrawn, yet, in order to close the protracted struggle, his friends had now full liberty to cast their votes for either of the other candidates before the Convention; and he (Mr. H.) took occasion to thank the friends of Judge Strickland for the support they had given him. For himself, he declared that he would continue to vote for Judge Strickland, but he did not wish his action to control other members of the Convention.

CHARGE OF BRIBERY.

Mr Johnson, of Lancaster, rose and stated that a rumour prevailed that some undue influences and bribery had been resorted to for the purpose of securing certain votes in order to carry the nomination for Canal Commissioner and other officers. [Great *sensation*, and the word "bribery" repeated from mouth to mouth.]

The President.—The gentleman is not in order, there being no question before the Convention. [Much uproar and noise, and half the delegates on their feet.]

Judge Gillis.—If the gentleman from Lancaster is allowed to proceed, I would make a motion that we *all* be allowed to proceed out of order (*laughter*), for he is certainly out of order.

Mr. Johnson.—Mr. President, I have some facts—some very important and astounding facts to make known to this Convention, and I wish to state them as a mere matter of explanation. [Cries of "State them," "State them," "Let a committee be appointed."] I will then move that a committee of investigation be appointed, and I will say nothing before the Convention. I hope the Convention will grant my request, or if not, I shall make known the facts.

A Delegate moved that the Convention proceed to another ballot.

The President.—The Chair cannot appoint a committee before the business of the Convention is disposed of in some way. [Tumultuous uproar, and the President's hammer thundering upon his desk amid cries for "order."]

Mr. Wright.—I move that the business be postponed till the gentleman makes his statement. [Here the Chair, Mr. Frailey and Judge Gillis, entered into a colloquy about a question of order.]

Mr. Black seconded Mr. Wright's motion.

Mr. Wright said, if he understood the gentleman from Lancaster, he desired to make an explanation. Now, it was a matter of grace and courtesy, in every deliberative assembly, to permit a gentleman to explain if he desired so to do. He (Mr. W.) would like to hear his explanation, or charge, if it was one, because we (said he), as the Democratic party, professing to be an honest party, the possessors of honest principles, ought not to shrink from ascertaining and investigating anything calculated to throw a stigma or disgrace upon us. If there be any thing wrong, the sooner we learn what it is the better. Let the gentleman make his explanation; he is entitled to it. (*Great applause.*)

Judge Gillis.—If the gentleman has any personal explanations to make, the Convention is bound to hear him; but if he rises to make any *individual* charges against an individual, the Convention has no right to listen to him.

Mr. Frailey had no idea of listening to all the idle rumours of the day, for if the Convention did, they would be kept in session for weeks to come. If any person had attempted to bribe him, or any other delegate, then it would be something personal, and he would cheerfully listen to the gentleman.

Mr. Johnson concurred in the remarks of the gentleman from Bucks (Mr. Wright). Wishing to sustain the honour, character, good fame, and reputation of the Democratic party, hence it was he demanded that the facts he had heard should be related, and, if necessary, investigated. If, unfortunately, it should be shown we are not as honest as we should be, and that dishonest means have been resorted to, our enemies would make the most political capital they could out of it. Therefore, it behooved the Democrats, as a party, to do everything that lay in their power to clear themselves of any charge, much less suspicion of having done aught dishonourable, dishonest, and unworthy the character of the

great Democratic party of Pennsylvania. This was no idle talk; there was substance in it. An attack had been made upon the political rights of freemen, which was not to be tolerated neither in this Convention, nor elsewhere. He would say, that if the rules of this body were so stringent as not to admit of an opportunity of making known to it an aggression upon its honour and integrity, then there was nothing to prevent attempts at bribery—nothing to prevent the money-changers from coming among us, and exercising their corrupt and infamous influences.

Mr. Watson.—In order to cut the matter short, I move that we proceed to ballot for a Canal Commissioner

Mr. Stokes.—We want to hear something about the attempt at bribery.

The President.—There is a motion pending of the gentlemen from Bucks, seconded by the gentlemen from Allegheny, that the gentlemen from Lancaster be permitted to make his statement.

Mr. Frailey.—Let us know what the gentleman is harping upon.

Mr. Johnson.—I'll let you know directly.

The President.—Let the gentleman state what he wants.

Mr. Johnson.—A delegate.—(loud cries from all quarters of "Name them," "Name them," and great excitement and confusion)—a delegate within the walls of this house has received five twenty dollar bills for his vote on the next ballot.

Judge Gillis (somewhat excited).—Now, I call on the gentleman to give us the name of the delegate; for, if I have got five twenty dollar bills there (placing his right hand on his pocket), I should like to know how they came there. I want the gentleman to explain the matter.

Mr. Johnson.—I would rather not name the parties (indescribable excitement, in the midst of which were cries of "Go on, and tell us all about it—their names—everything," "Out with it, let's have it all"). If you will give us a committee, we will give them the facts, exhibit the men, and show you where the money came from. (Enthusiastic applause).

The President (with great sensibility).—It is a disgraceful and disreputable proceeding. The gentleman cannot make any further remarks. (Cries of "Give us the name.")

Mr. Johnson.—The delegate to whom I alluded is named "Donahue." (Here Mr. D. ascended the President's rostrum, and, in the midst of the Vice-Presidents, threw down upon the table in front of the President eighty dollars in bills, exclaiming with great indignation, "There's the money, I despise it.") Mr. Johnson then added: the name of the other delegate is Green—both representing the county of Philadelphia. (At this moment Mr. Green rose in the Convention and said, holding up his right hand with the money clenched in it, "Here's a hundred dollars more!" Tremendous sensation and excitement—the delegates all around him saying, "Here's more of it.")

Dr. Stokes.—I move that the gentlemen who received this money make a written statement of the fact from whom they obtained it. We want to chronicle—to mark them—the scoundrels! They ought to be driven from the Democratic party, as a disgrace and discredit to it. (Frightful excitement and tumult.)

The President.—The gentleman is not in order.

Dr. Stokes.—I move that the delegates who have received this money make a statement, in writing, of the circumstances under which they received it.

Mr. Hickman.—Upon what bank is the money?

The President.—I don't know. The gentleman can look for himself. The gentleman is now entitled to the floor. (Half the delegates on their feet, and talking aloud, generally, and some vociferously. The President's hammer striking for a restoration of order.)

A motion was made by Mr. Coyle that a committee of five be appointed to inquire into and investigate the subject. Agreed to.

The President appointed Messrs. Coyle, Plumer, Frailey, Bailey, and Stokes, the said committee.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, MAY 31.—THIRD DAY.

Mr. Hickman offered the following resolution, which was twice read:

Resolved, That a State Central Committee, consisting of thirty-three members,

shall be constituted as follows:—Twenty-four of them to be designated by the delegates from each Congressional district in the state, and that the additional number be added by the President and Vice-Presidents of this Convention; seven members of the committee to constitute a quorum.

Mr. Frazer said: The appointment of a *Central Committee* is of the utmost importance to the Democratic party of the Commonwealth. Upon its industry, integrity, discernment, watchfulness, and zeal, mainly depend the triumph of our candidates, our measures, and our principles, at the ballot-box. If, Mr. President, you select a body consisting of one from each Congressional district, then you have a *scattered*, not *central committee*. They cannot meet often to consult, advise, organize, and prepare for the campaign the army of Pennsylvania Democrats, to meet and conquer the common foe. In my view, sir, and as far as my experience extends, a *quorum of the committee*, at least from six to ten, should reside at *Harrisburg*, the seat of government, where the means of information from *every part of the state*, and *communication with same*, are more easily had, than at *any other point*. The committee may have a member also from *each Congressional district*, and such a committee, thus combining *central energy* with *extended numbers* in the different parts of the state, would render most efficient aid to the "*good cause*," and to the magnanimous and noble party, whose *order and organization* are almost entirely dependent upon its action and labours. He hoped, therefore, that the Convention would thus constitute this most important committee. Let us (said Mr. F.), take heed from the foe, and surpass them in *energy and activity*. In 1848 their efforts were untiring—a travelling candidate for governor, not so much to influence the people by reason and argument, as to plan and devise an entire and efficient organization of the opposition, traversed the entire state. In addition, paid *colporteurs* or travelling agents were sent into every nook and corner of the Commonwealth, and money was scattered *with prodigality* far and wide among the train bands of Federalism.

The Democracy, confident of their large and decisive majority, rested on their arms; the central committee did little if any labour, and the integrity of our cause, and the love of our principles alone, brought the people to the polls. And yet, strange to say, the Democratic candidate for governor, received 22,000 *more votes* than Governor Shunk did the year before, (1847) *when he had 18,000 majority*, and the Federal candidate received 40,000 more votes than General Irvin, also the candidate of the same party (and a most popular man), received the year before. Yet I have never doubted, that a large amount of those Federal votes were illegal, and that the Democratic candidate was really elected by a very decided majority. Certain Federal districts in the county of Schuylkill polled more votes in 1848, by a large amount, than the list of taxables as lately taken; and we all know, that in times even of the *greatest excitement*, the full *tax list cannot be voted within thirty per cent.*, save in 1838, when the *treasonable frauds of Millerstown, &c.*, nullified the voice of the people and corrupted the honesty and purity of the *ballot-boxes*. This full and complete organization of our party is of vital importance. In Democratic counties the people are easily moved in full force to the polls. Not so in the Federal; there the insolence of power crosses the path of Democrats, to crush and sneer them out of their political faith.

The news from *far-famed Berks*, after an election, always warms our hearts. We can then only feel the greatness of her power, the magnificence of her swelling majorities, and the grandeur of her crushing victories over the many-named foe. Westmoreland, Northampton, Montgomery, Clarion, Greene, Monroe, Luzerne, Columbia, and many others, also swell the noble list of popular triumphs. Columbia did I say? Yes! victorious, never conquered Columbia, (applause,) who has never failed to come to the rescue in the day of danger, has now, through the vile treachery of the ingrate Best, in league with the Federal Whigs, been shorn of her fair proportions, cut up and dismembered, her voice disregarded, her Democratic yeomen insulted and betrayed, so that the miserable traitor could get a small *pea-patch* county taken from her Democratic area; and thus minister to his own selfish interests, and destroy, if possible, the very Democracy, to whom, under written pledges, prior to his election, made *voluntarily and unasked for*, he promised, "*to stand by and support, in all regular Democratic nominations, county, state, or national, and that he was opposed to any division or other dismemberment of Columbia County.*" And yet, with the ink scarcely dry in which the pledges were

written, did the entire Whig party, in the Senate of Pennsylvania, by the aid of the casting vote of "*Valentine Best*" himself, *degradingly elect* this same Best Speaker of their body, whilst he in return, gave them the present infamous and unfair apportionment bill, and they in return gave him Montour, by his misrepresenting the Democracy of Luzerne and Columbia, with 2500 majority. *Degrading spectacle!* worthy only of *Arnold Iscariot*, and the piebald enemy who jointly effected these infamous measures; and yet, I see this arch-traitor hovering around this Convention like a carrion-crow (great laughter), seeking for more food to satiate his cormorant appetite. But I say to the betrayed, yet undismayed Democrats of noble Columbia, to let "*Repeal*" be the watchword, never to tire in their efforts, until their beautiful hills and dales shall resound its triumph, like "*Expunge*" in the Senate of the Union, when the fair fame of Andrew Jackson was rescued from the foul aspersion then cast upon its mantle. (Cheers.)

We have a noble work before us, fellow-Democrats. The state and nation must be brought back, at the coming gubernatorial and presidential elections, to the Democratic cause. Her candidates, her measures and principles must then again be in the ascendant, and must, as she has during the present century, with but a few short intervals, control and direct this great state and advancing nation. (Applause.) Federalism is not qualified for power, having no principles but a lust for *privileged power, corporate irresponsibility, protected capital, depressed labour, and distrust of man's capability for self-government*, and these concealed under *various disguises and pretences*. Her administration of the national government exhibits broken pledges, vacillating indecision, Galphin plunders, and heartless indifference to the cause of suffering freedom in the land of the Roman and Hungarian. (Renewed applause.)

Then let us rally our ranks again, and elevate Pennsylvania to her lofty position by the side of chivalrous Virginia (where a Federal vote from 1799 to the present time has never been cast), and exhibit to the nation the Keystone commonwealth, founded in "mercy and justice," rendered illustrious by the genius of Franklin, Rittenhouse, and Fulton, by the valour of Wayne and Decatur, and the incorruptible democracy of Snyder, Wolf, and Shunk, crowned with victorious laurels that shall be green for ever. (Enthusiastic applause.)

Messrs. Maynard, Campbell, Leyburn, Watson, Galbraith, and Brewer, also spoke, but very briefly, in relation to the appointment of a State Central Committee.

The resolution was then read a third time, and adopted.

The committee is constituted as follows:

John Hickman,	Chester County.
Andrew Miller,	Philadelphia County.
James Goodman,	" "
L. W. Bickley,	" "
Charles Brady,	" City.
John B. Sterigere,	Montgomery County.
Wm. T. Rodgers,	Bucks "
John Kolp,	Lancaster "
A. M. Sallada,	Berks "
John A. Innis,	Northampton "
E. Maynard,	Tioga "
H. C. Eyre,	Union "
D. F. Williams,	York "
George W. Brewer,	Franklin "
A. P. Wilson,	Huntingdon "
H. W. Breeson,	Fayette "
Seth Clover,	Clarion "
John S. Rhey,	Armstrong "
Thos. W. Grayson,	Washington "
M. C. Trout,	Mercer "
Charles Frailey,	Schuylkill "
Samuel H. Tate,	Bedford "
Samuel P. Collings,	Luzerne "
George P. Hamilton,	Allegheny "

Charles Brown, Philadelphia County.	
C. E. Wright, Bucks	"
James Donegan, Berks	"
Luther Reiley, Dauphin	"
Asa Dimmock, "	"
William Deal, Philadelphia.	"
Wm. L. Dewart, Northumberland	"
T. J. P. Stokes, Philadelphia City.	
Daniel Barr,	" "

A motion was made by Mr. Wilson, that a committee of correspondence for the several counties be appointed, to consist of three members from each county; the delegations from the several counties to report the names of committee-men for their respective counties.

The motion was agreed to.

[The delegates have not, as yet, reported the names of the committee-men.]

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The committee appointed, in pursuance of the resolution offered by Mr. Coyle, to investigate certain charges made, report as follows, viz.:

To the members of the Democratic State Convention, now assembled at Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

GENTLEMEN—The committee appointed by this Convention for the purpose of investigating certain charges of bribery and corruption, made in relation to the nomination of a candidate for Canal Commissioner, respectfully report—

That, in pursuance of their appointment, they met, and adjourned from time to time, as will appear from their minutes, annexed hereto.

That, after hearing the testimony, hereto attached, besides sundry other statements and evidences, in relation to the aforesaid charges and *rumours* of bribery and corruption, referred to them, are, after a full investigation of all the evidence brought before them, unanimously of the opinion, and take pleasure in giving it expression, that the several gentlemen before this Convention as candidates for nomination, are not, in the most remote degree, in any manner connected with the aforesaid charges. Your committee also take pleasure in exculpating fully and entirely the public officers, now in Williamsport, in attendance on this Convention, from all connexion with the said charges. They cannot, however, find terms sufficiently strong to condemn the dishonest and infamously corrupt course pursued by the individuals implicated in the transactions referred to, and would ask that this Convention will adopt a resolution, not only that the money shall be indignantly returned, but condemnatory of such conduct, and repudiate it as being recognised among Democrats, or being that of any person true to pure Democratic principles. Your committee, having devoted much time and attention to the important duty committed to them, ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

Testimony of William Green, taken before the Committee of Investigation, appointed by the Williamsport Convention, May 30, 1850.

My name is William Green: I live in the Northern Liberties, in the county of Philadelphia, and am a delegate to the Convention now sitting at Williamsport. I board at the United States Hotel in this town. After supper this evening, I was out on the pavement, and William B. Rankin, of the Northern Liberties, came up to me and asked me to take a walk with him. We walked up the street, and going along he said to me, "*How are you going to vote on the next ballot?*" I told him I was voting for Franklin Vanzant. He said, "*Why don't you come over and give Hubley a turn?*" I told him I was at liberty to go for whatever man I pleased. He said, "*If I were in that Convention, I'd make something: I can get you one hundred dollars to go for Hubley; he will be nominated, and you might as well make the hundred dollars.*" I told him "*I had not seen any money, but thought it (the money) was about.*" We returned to the United States Hotel, and he left me, telling me not to go away from the pavement. I called Mr. John Donahue, a delegate from the county of Philadelphia, to me, and told him what was going on. Rankin had

told me before to see Donahue, to see if I could not get him to come over—that we would get one hundred dollars a piece by it. Mr. Donahue said he did not want to do it: Donahue went away. Rankin met me and told me, to get Donahue and go up into No. 47, in the United States Hotel. Mr. Samuel Ovenshine, of the city of Philadelphia, Wm. B. Rankin, and myself, went up into No. 47, in the third story of the United States Hotel. Mr. Samuel Ovenshine took his pocket-book from his pocket, and gave me *five twenty dollar bills*, which I have marked with the letter G; the bills are *two twenty dollar bills* on the Bank of Middletown, *one twenty dollar bill* on the Harrisburg Bank, and *two twenty dollar bills* on the Cecil Bank of Maryland. Samuel Ovenshine told me to vote for Hubley, and I could have anything I wanted, if he got the nomination. Ovenshine then left. I told him “*I did not want to go out with him, as somebody might see us,*” and he left me with William B. Rankin; we came out. Rankin said to me, “*Now mind, on the first ballot;*” I said “*Yes,*” and there we parted. I then went and hunted up Donahue and John Cline, and went up into my room; I told Donahue I would get him one hundred dollars. We came down stairs together and met Rankin on the pavement; I told “*Rankin that Donahue would go right.*” He told us to go up to the Eagle Hotel, and that they (Ovenshine and Rankin) would be up there: they met us there; we went in and drank at the bar. Rankin and Ovenshine went out the back door of the bar-room; I called Donahue, and we went out the front door, and went into the back part of the entry where we met Ovenshine and Rankin. Ovenshine and Rankin parted; Rankin came around and told Donahue there was *eighty dollars*, which he gave him, saying he would give him twenty dollars more; he said “*Now whatever you do dont say anything about it, for it will ruin me.*” We parted and came to the Court-House: we made it known immediately to Mr. C. F. Johnson, a delegate from Lancaster, and to Mr. John Cline. Mr. Johnson said jocosely, “*I wonder if I could get a hundred dollars.*”

Cross-examined by Dr. Stokes.—Mr. Rankin did not tell me where the money came from. Rankin said to me, “that General Cameron always took care of his friends, and that when any person did his party a favour he never deserted them.”

Cross-examined by Judge Frailey.—I intend to keep the money.

By Dr. Stokes.—But if the Convention see proper to take any action in regard to it, the Convention may do with the money what it pleases; I intended, when I got the money, to expose those who gave it to me; I don't think there is any man with money enough to buy my vote.

WILLIAM GREEN.

Sworn and subscribed before me, May 30, 1850.

E. CALVERT, J. P.

Testimony of John S. Donahue, of Philadelphia County, taken before the Committee of Investigation, May 30, 1850.

My name is John S. Donahue; I live in the county of Philadelphia, and am a delegate to the Williamsport Convention now sitting. Mr. William Green told me he got one hundred dollars, and that I could get one hundred dollars by the same operation, that is, promising to vote for Hubley. I said, that as soon as I received the money I would take it over to the Convention, and I did so. I received eighty dollars from Mr. William B. Rankin, of Philadelphia County, at the Eagle Hotel, consisting of *three twenty dollar notes* of the Bank of Middletown, and *one twenty dollar note* of the Bank of Harrisburg.

The testimony of Mr. Green, as far as I have any connexion with it, is true. Immediately after the time the money was given, Mr. Green said to me, “*Now, Donahue, you vote before me, and when you vote hold up the money, and say you got it for your vote;*” I said I would, and I never put it into my pocket, but handed it to the President of the Convention when I went in.

Cross-examined by Dr. Stokes.—There was nothing said about General Cameron, or where the money came from; there was no time to say anything after the money was paid, as the bell was ringing for the meeting of the Convention. I am willing, if required, to make oath to the facts above stated.

JOHN S. DONAHUE.

Sworn and subscribed before me, May 31, 1850.

E. CALVERT, J. P.

LYCOMING COUNTY, ss.

Personally before me, a magistrate of the county aforesaid, appeared William B. Rankin, of the county of Philadelphia, who being duly affirmed according to law, doth depose and say, that on the evening of the 30th May, A. D. 1850, he met William Green, a delegate from the county last aforesaid, who asked him if he had any money, and said that he wanted some to defray his expenses; that he, the said Green, had borrowed \$30 to come to Williamsport, and was short. He, the said deponent, told the said Green, that he thought he could get the money for him. After that the said deponent met Mr. Ovenshine and stated to him that Mr. Green aforesaid was short of money; that he had made application to him, the said deponent, for money, and that he had not it to give him; and that Mr. Ovenshine, at the request of the said deponent, consented to let him have it. He, the said deponent, then told him, the said Green, to come up to room No. 47, U. S. Hotel, and he would get him the money; and then, upon the request of the said deponent, the money was given to Mr. Green by Mr. Ovenshine. And the said deponent doth further aver, that he was present during the whole of this interview between the said Green and Ovenshine, and not a word was said in relation to Mr. Green's voting in the Democratic Convention now assembled, nor upon any other matter connected with the said Convention. Mr. Green then left. After this Mr. Green came to where the deponent was, on the pavement of the U. S. Hotel, and stated to him that Mr. Donahue, the friend of the said Green, was also in want of money; and at Mr. Green's suggestion, the said deponent again saw Mr. O., and said that he wanted some money for Mr. Green's friend, Mr. Donahue. Mr. O. then furnished the money; and, afterwards, when the deponent saw Mr. D., he handed him \$80; and he never, at any time, had any conversation whatever with Mr. Donahue in relation to any nomination or business, whatsoever, connected with the Democratic Convention. These pecuniary transactions were without the knowledge of any delegate in this Convention, or of any person before this Convention for nomination for any office, or of any other person whatever; and the said deponent has never been requested or authorized by any delegate in, or candidate before the Convention, or to come before it, or by any other person, to use any improper influence to secure a vote.

W. B. RANKIN.

Affirmed and subscribed before me, this 30th day of May, A. D., 1850.

E. CALVERT, J. P.

LYCOMING COUNTY, ss.

Personally before me, a magistrate in and for the county aforesaid, came Samuel Ovenshine, who being duly sworn, according to the law, saith that he had in his possession a draft on the Lancaster Bank, which he had cashed at the bank in Williamsport, receiving \$600 in notes for the same: That the said deponent has a line of omnibuses in Philadelphia city and county, and that Messrs. Green and Donahue, delegates to the Convention now in session, live in Philadelphia County, as was represented to him by Mr. W. B. Rankin, and that he, the said deponent, let the said Green have the sum of \$100 of the said money, to defray his expenses in this place and to carry him back home. And the said deponent saith that he had no conversation, whatever, at any time, in relation to the action of the said Green and Donahue in the present Convention, nor in reference to any person now before, or to come before said Convention, for nomination for any office whatsoever, and the money aforesaid, was his own money: And, further, this deponent saith, that he let Mr. Rankin have \$80 of said money, to give to Mr. Donahue, upon the representation Mr. R. made to him, that Mr. D. was in want of money.

SAMUEL OVENSHINE.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 30th May, 1850.

E. CALVERT, J. P.

On motion of Mr. Brewer, the report was twice read and unanimously adopted. Mr. Coyle offered the following resolution, which was read twice:

Resolved, That we denounce as disreputable the conduct of those men who attempted, by bribery, to assail the integrity of members of this Convention, and direct the President to return the money to the source from which it came.

Judge Gillis submitted a resolution which, in substance, was as follows, as an amendment to Mr. Coyle's resolution :

"Whereas, it has been satisfactorily shown to this Convention, that Green and Donahue have suffered themselves to be approached and received a sum of money, with the understanding that it was to influence their action, thereby preferring disgrace to honour."

Therefore be it, and it is hereby Resolved, That Green and Donahue, delegates from the county of Philadelphia, be expelled from this Convention. (Great excitement, uproar, and confusion.)

The President. I hope we will proceed without applause or hissing.

Judge Gillis said he hoped the question would be calmly, coolly, and dispassionately considered, in order that those who were opposed to the preamble of the resolution might have an opportunity of advocating the cause of the gentlemen he now proposed to expel. He was, by no means, disposed to assail them. He did not, however, like their conduct, for it was of such a character as not to be tolerated by honourable and high-minded men. If there was censure to be attached to any body, it might be attributed to all the parties concerned, viz.: Donahue, Green, Rankin, and Ovenshine. He, therefore, hoped that the Convention would, by their votes, wipe away, as far as it was possible, the foul and scandalous disgrace which had fallen upon it. He was not disposed to cast censure upon any individuals, but he thought it high time that a stop should be put to these improper interferences with the representatives of the people sent to transact business in Convention. When we saw men of high standing, an ex-Governor of the Commonwealth and an ex-Senator of the United States, descending from their lofty positions to mingle in the crowd and use their influence to secure the nomination of their favourite candidates—and when we saw a Canal Commissioner abandoning his duties on the public works, and a Surveyor-General, also, leaving his office for the same purpose, it was high time to look into the matter—to investigate facts—when charges, such as we had heard to-day, were made. These individuals, and others, were all swarming around us here to exercise an influence, and offer—if not *bribes*—cogent inducements to go for their particular candidates. He would repeat, that he thought it high time we should frown down such conduct—denounce such conduct. Could it be possible, that men were so lost to all sense of propriety, as to suffer themselves to be approached, as these men—Green and Donahue—acknowledge they were, having received money offered as an inducement to them to go for certain men? He thought the time had arrived when such men—if not read out of the party—should be, at least, read out of the Convention. (Much applause, angry excitement, and uproar.)

Mr. Johnson offered a resolution, by way of amendment, that the thanks of this Convention be presented to Messrs. Green and Donahue, for exposing this attempt to bribe them on the part of villains outside. He proceeded to review the testimony taken before the committee, and to comment upon it. He asked if it could be supposed that Green, a poor and hard-working man, a plasterer by occupation, having a large family to maintain, could afford to attend a Convention and spend as large an amount of money as it was asserted he had borrowed. The idea was preposterous. He was not seen about dissipating, nor could there be a charge brought against his moral character. Then, as to Mr. Donahue. He stood upon a broad, moral platform. He was an honest and correct member of society. These gentlemen were determined, when they received the money, to expose the whole affair to the Convention. He (Mr. J.) knew that they had not the money more than twenty minutes in their possession before he saw it. They came to him, showed him the money, and said that it had been offered as a bribe, and that they had taken it in order to expose the scoundrels who had offered it. He said to them, "You have done right. You have done as I would have done. Could I get a hundred, I would exhibit it. I would have *skinned* the Indians." (Laughter.) He (Mr. Johnson) told them to expose the whole matter in open Convention, fairly and candidly, as they had done to him, and if they did, care would be taken that no marks should be put upon them. He verily believed that this exposé would be the commencement of a great and salutary reform, and

would result in a triumphant moral victory. He asked if those who had held out the golden bait should escape the lash, whilst their artless and unsuspecting victims were to be sent home with the mark of Cain upon their brows. He trusted that the amendment would be adopted.

Dr. Black.—What is the meaning of Indians? (Laughter.)

Dr. Lambert said that he entertained no regard for the man who stood at his elbow, (Mr. Rankin.) Every delegate, at least from the county of Philadelphia, knew him, and if they, when knowing him, felt any respect for him, he (Dr. L.) would think very little of them and their regard for the Democracy of Philadelphia. He desired to stand here and insist upon what was actually right, without being influenced or carried away by his feelings. Now, was there any evidence before the Convention that Ovenshine and Rankin did *not* approach Green and Donahue? He told him (Ovenshine) to his face that he (Dr. L.) did not believe it. He had no respect for the man. It was extremely annoying and mortifying to have this excitement about so disgraceful a proceeding. The names of Green and Donahue would now resound through the country, and odium would attach to us on account of having such men in the ranks of the Democratic party. In what position were they in this whole land, and how it would affect them they could not tell. He hoped this Convention would severely denounce these men. He concluded with saying that he would like to see the report of the committee, and everything in relation to this disgraceful affair thrown out of the Convention.

Mr. Coyle.—The report of the committee has been adopted.

Hon. James Thompson said, that in the course of a long political life, seldom had he witnessed anything which gave him more pain and alarm than the affair that was brought to the notice of the Convention last evening. The impression then produced was, that their candidate had resorted to bribery for the purpose of securing his nomination. That was, indeed, a grave and serious imputation; but he was heartily glad, upon a thorough investigation of the facts, as made known in the report of the committee, that the impression was utterly unfounded, and the gloom which it had produced was entirely cleared away. His heart was glad that the vile insinuations against Mr. Hubley and his friends, set afloat by designing, artful, and wicked men, had been completely dissipated. He gloried in the fact, that those who had supported each and all the candidates here, would go back to the people and say, that in relation to this matter, these men were entirely pure: but there was injury done to the Democratic party, and Green and Donahue, with others, had been instrumental in producing it. Now, he did not know Donahue or Green. Yesterday, he might have taken those gentlemen by the hand, it might be most cordially; but, to-day, he confessed he would have some hesitation and revulsion of feeling. It was said of Lord Bacon that, whilst he was the greatest, he was also the meanest of mankind. This was said of him because he had received a bribe; and any man who receives a bribe must be put in the same category with that distinguished jurist, so far as the meanest is concerned. His gallant friend from Lancaster (Mr. Johnson) objects, from the kind impulses of his heart, to passing censure upon these men; but he proposes to give them our humble thanks! (Laughter.) Here, he thought the gentleman's heart had got the better of his head. Had one of these men gone with their proposition (the effect of which was to bring odium upon the party) to the gallant war-horse by his (Mr. Johnson's) side, he would at once have knocked him down. (Laughter, sneers, and hisses.) And, had he gone to his worthy friend from Elk (Judge Gillis), he would have spitten in his face. Mr. T. commented upon the testimony, and then went on to say that he only wished this Convention possessed power over these two persons—Ovenshine and Rankin—for if they did, they would punish all alike. But, really, it seemed to him that those two men were without the semblance or shadow of any character with which to injure the Democratic party, while Green and Donahue, as delegates to this Convention, stood guilty of trickery if not corruption.

Mr. Maynard said, it appeared to him that the parties who received the money, did so under the conviction they were being tampered with. This was, he thought, clearly shown by their own affidavits. It proved, at once, that there was something between them—Donahue and Green—to get the money for some purpose by which they could injure particular candidates. And how do we know that it was not a concoction between all four of these men? Do we not know

that they were hand in glove together in the bar-room of the United States Hotel? Was there not a suspicion that they were all pulling together for the purpose of bringing contumely and disgrace upon the candidates of the Convention? It certainly did appear so. Now, his friend from Lancaster (Mr. Johnson), proposed to pass a vote of thanks to Donahue and Green for scourging the Democratic party of such vile excrescences as Ovenshine and Rankin. He (Mr. M.) could never give his consent to any such act as that. He felt assured that the two delegates in question could have had no other object in view than that of throwing odium and contumely upon the Democratic party, to which they *profess* to belong, and had made use of Ovenshine and Rankin to effect their nefarious design. He trusted that the Convention would repudiate men of such a stamp, and expel them from the body.

Mr. Coyle said he did not know whether he felt more ashamed or surprised at the introduction of the amendment by the gentleman from Elk (Judge Gillis). The course pursued by Green and Donahue was not, in the opinion of the committee, of a criminal character, their object being to expose to the Convention and the world the attempt which was made to bribe them to forego the dictates of their judgments. Ovenshine and Rankin desired to forestall the voice of the people by means of money put into the hands of fit instruments to effect it; but they were caught on a hook. The idea that the thing was a concoction on the part of Green and Donahue, and Ovenshine and Rankin, and others, for the purpose of injuring Mr. Hubley, struck him as extremely ridiculous. For everybody in the Convention who had paid any attention to what was going on, must have known full well that Ovenshine and Rankin were the warm and ardent friends of Mr. Hubley. He (Mr. C.) found no fault with them on that account. The other gentlemen were for Vanzant. He could not concur in the remark of the gentleman from Erie (Mr. Thompson), that the statements made by Rankin and Ovenshine could be taken with as full credence as those of Green and Donahue.

Mr. Hickman would say a word, but not with a desire, in the slightest degree, to add fuel to the flame which he saw was now burning in this Convention. His disposition was to do justice to all the parties concerned, and not to be hasty and inconsiderate, and thus cast odium where, perhaps, it did not properly belong. The gentleman from Erie (Hon. Mr. Thompson) had contended that a bribe had been taken, and he looked upon this case as like that of Lord Bacon. Now there was no parallel, for in the latter instance, a bribe had been taken and appropriated. It was not the act that constituted the crime, as the gentleman from Erie well knew. He had presided too long over the judicial determinations of the country not to know that; it was the *intent*, the movement of the heart that constituted the crime. The whole of this unpleasant and unfortunate affair had undergone investigation before a committee, and they had made a report unanimously acquitting Green and Donahue of the charge alleged against them, and condemning the others implicated in the transaction. It was better, in his opinion, that the Convention should take a middle course, and wash its hands of this whole disreputable affair, by the passage of a resolution which had been recommended by the committee. He confessed that he could not, like the gentleman from Erie, see anything but bribery and corruption on the part of Green and Donahue. He was, on the contrary, entirely unable to see it. He had no personal attachment for those gentlemen, and nothing to ask at their hands, or those of any other gentleman in this Convention. He stood there with a determination to discharge his duties to his party—the democracy of the country—who were struggling against the machinations of a wicked, resolute, and determined enemy. If the money was not received as a bribe, then there was no bribery committed. If the Convention believed that Ovenshine and Rankin tampered with Green and Donahue, then he (Mr. H.), would say they were perfectly justified in doing as they did, for they were rendering a service to the Democratic party, and a service to public virtue, in exposing an attempt at bribery and corruption of the representatives of the people. It was proposed to expel the two delegates—Green and Donahue—from this Convention. To this proposition he could not give his consent, but would protest against it in the most solemn manner; for the effect of it would be not only to injure the two gentlemen, but the Democratic party itself, whence they came. He hoped the amendment would be voted down.

Mr. Snodgrass observed, that if this amendment were to prevail, no matter what

nominations they might make, they might just as well break up and go home to their constituents. He firmly believed that the Democratic party would meet with the same fate they did in 1835.

Hon. Mr. Thompson.—I hope the success of the Democratic party is not to depend upon the character of this transaction.

Mr. Snodgrass said the gentleman from Erie (Hon. Mr. Thompson) believed the affair to be a fair moneyed transaction between the parties concerned. But it was done at such a time, and in such a manner, that it precluded in his (Mr. S.'s) opinion the possibility of such a belief. No due-bill was taken, and no security on real estate was given. He (Mr. Snodgrass) believed that there was no man who stood higher than Mr. Hubley in this commonwealth. He could not, for an instant, suspect him of any moral turpitude. He thought the transaction was plainly attributable to other sources. He hoped the Convention would not consent to expel the two delegates from Philadelphia County.

Mr. Stokes had a word to say. If the amendment were adopted, he would feel it his duty to withdraw from the Convention and go home. He would not sit in a body where men were denounced and expelled for exposing bribery and corruption, and he was astonished to see the gentleman from Erie get up and indulge in a sophistical argument, destitute of logic, and pretend to plaster up this affair in such a way as to make these men in any manner implicated. Now, the committee, to whom all the facts had been submitted, were, after a full investigation of them, unanimously convinced that the two delegates from the county were actuated by pure, upright, and patriotic motives. He never could have supposed that the gentleman would allow his party feelings to carry him to so unreasonable a length. He would repeat, that if Green and Donahue should be expelled, he would, as he had already said, withdraw from the Convention, and he trusted his colleagues would do likewise. Had he been in the place of either of those gentlemen he would have done the same thing as themselves, and for which they were now censured by a portion of the delegates to this body. He regarded it as a patriotic and virtuous act, and would have considered it a crime to conceal it. Hence he would vote against the amendment, and he trusted that the representatives from the city and county of Philadelphia would follow his example.

Mr. Hickman here reiterated what he had before said in relation to this affair, and contended that the adoption of the amendment of the gentleman from Elk, to expel the two delegates, would be attended with the most disastrous consequences.

Mr. Watson regarded the report as being explicit. In the first place, it exculpated all the candidates before the Convention; secondly, all the officers; and, thirdly, it condemned, in the most decisive manner, all the parties connected with this foul transaction. The report condemned, if it meant anything, Donahue and Green, as parties to this nefarious affair; and, if the committee desire not to be so understood, he would suggest that the report be referred back to the committee, to express in a more intelligible manner what they did really mean, and in such language that the Convention could understand it. He would vote for excluding Green and Donahue from seats in this body, as a duty he owed to himself and the Democracy whom he had the honour to represent on this highly important occasion. He hoped that the amendment to the amendment would be voted down, and that the amendment excluding the two delegates from the county of Philadelphia might be carried.

After a few words from Messrs. Johnson, Meylert, Galbraith, Gillis, and Lynch, Mr. Johnson withdrew his amendment proposing a vote of thanks to the two delegates.

Mr. Flittercraft said that he was acquainted with Mr. Donahue, who was a correct and moral man, and entirely above all suspicion, among those who knew him best, of being guilty of the crime alleged by some individuals against him. If that gentleman had wanted money, he could have obtained it in a moment by going to men of higher and better reputation than those connected with this unfortunate affair.

Judge Gillis said that he would withdraw his amendment to expel Green and Donahue. He, however, wished it to be distinctly understood that he did not do so on account of any threats made by delegates from the city and county of Philadelphia, for he believed the great state of Pennsylvania would survive the shock or thunder created in those quarters.

Here Mr. Coyle's resolution, denouncing those who attempted to bribe the delegates, was read a third time and unanimously adopted.

[The reporter here deems it due to the public to apprise them that the publication of this report has been unavoidably delayed, in consequence of his efforts, which have been unceasing, to procure a part, if not *all* the testimony taken before the Investigating Committee, in addition to that reported to the Convention, knowing that a general desire is entertained by a large portion of the community to see it. His efforts, however, have *not* been crowned with success; the party or parties in possession of the evidence declining to give publicity to it, for the reason, as they allege, that they are unwilling to violate the confidence of the committee, as they would do by acceding to his request. He may further remark, that the other testimony taken before the committee was in relation to certain rumours that were rife relative to promises made to delegates by certain public officers of the Commonwealth. It was not, he learns, reported to the Convention by the committee, on the ground that it did not relate to the subject-matter against them in the charge. It was urged that the committee was appointed to investigate the *specific* charge of bribery and corruption, alleged to have been attempted upon two of the delegates from the county of Philadelphia. As the testimony alluded to did not relate to this subject, it was consequently agreed *unanimously* not to report it.]

CANAL COMMISSIONER.

The Convention proceeded to vote for a candidate for Canal Commissioner, as follows:

Ballots.	22d.	23d.	24th.	25th.	26th.
Hubley,	55	54	50	35	
Strickland,	34	31	29	15	4
Vanzant,	23	27	28	20	18
Morison,	6	8	13	42	106
Martin,	10	9	10	15	1
Cresswell,	1	1		1	

CHANGES.

On the 22d ballot, Messrs. Blattenberger, Boon, Crawford, Dunlap, Frazer, Hastings, Hueston, Johnson and Seybert, voted for Martin.

Messrs. Bullman, Donahue, J. S. Fulmer, Gere, Goodrich, Kaine, Laporte, Lynch and Moore, for Strickland.

Mr. Campbell for Cresswell.

Mr. Lyman for Vanzant.

Messrs. D. W. Moore, Roat, Shoemaker, J. C. Smith and Tippin, for Morison.

On the 23d ballot, Messrs. W. T. Alexander, Blattenberger, Donahue, and J. Moore, voted for Vanzant.

Messrs. Bullman and Hastings, for Morison.

Mr. Zimmerman, for Martin.

Mr. Shoemaker, for Hubley.

On the 24th ballot, Messrs. Carmony and M'Laughlin voted for Martin.

Messrs. W. Fulmer and Campbell, for Strickland.

Messrs. J. S. Fullmer, Graham, Ward, Phelps and Meylert, for Morison.

Mr. Seybert, for Vansant.

Mr. Shoemaker, for Hubley.

On the 25th ballot, Messrs. W. T. Alexander, Applebaugh, Blair, Blattenberger, Butler, Canfield, Carlton, Carmony, Coolbaugh, Crawford, Dickinson, J. C. Dunlap, Evans, W. Fullmer, Gere, Goodrich, Laporte, Lyman, M'Caslin, M'Cord, Maynard, Overfield, Plumer, Shoemaker, G. Smith, Snodgrass, Weaver, Watson, Wilson, and Zimmerman, voted for Morison.

Messrs. Galbraith, Cutler, Hutter, Kaine, Porter, Sletor, and Thompson, voted for Martin.

Mr. Campbell, for Cresswell.

On the 26th ballot, Messrs. Abrams, Anderson, Joseph Alexander, Amwake, Barnet, Bois, Boon, Brenner, Brewer, Buchanan, Carpenter, Cooper, Cutler, Danner, Davis, Dewart, J. M. Dunlap, Durbin, Fausold, Fidler, Frailey, Fogle, Frazer, Frank, Frost, Garvin, Galbraith, Gemmiel, Gillis, Harner, Hatfield, Hickman, Houston, Hogue, Hursh, Hutter, Jack, James, Keenan, Kaine, Koons, Lentz, Linton, Lynch, M'Laughlin, M'Veigh, Moore, Morris, M'Guffin, Pierce, Porter, Power, Ritter, Sallada, Seybert, Schoonover, Sletor, Spering, Stewart, Thompson, Tyson, Uber, Woodburn, and Worthington, voted for Wm. T. Morison.

The President announced that W. T. Morison, of Montgomery County, was duly nominated the Democratic candidate for Canal Commissioner, and on motion, his nomination was unanimously confirmed.

After making nominations for Surveyor-General, the Convention took a recess of one hour, before proceeding to ballot for a candidate for that office.

On motion of Mr. Anderson, the following committee was appointed to inform Mr. Morison of his nomination, viz.:—Messrs. Anderson, Frazer, Smith, Stokes, and Snodgrass.

SURVEYOR-GENERAL.

On motion, the Convention proceeded to the nomination of candidates for Surveyor-General.

Mr. Carpenter nominated	James Miller.
“ Maynard	“ Timothy Ives.
“ Snodgrass	“ Samuel L. Carpenter.
“ Lynch	“ Major T. Watson.
“ Porter	“ J. Porter Brawley.
“ Fogle	“ Samuel Marx.
“ Danner	“ Isaac Robinson.
“ Blair	“ H. L. Diffenbach.
“ Bailey	“ Robert Kelly.
“ M'Allister	“ Thomas Dailey.
“ Overfield	“ Alfred Hine.
“ Davis	“ James Madden.
“ Graham	“ Wm. Beatty.
“ Schoonover	“ C. F. Jackson.
“ Hursh	“ Samuel N. Bailey.

Adjourned until eight o'clock this evening.

EVENING SESSION.

On motion of Mr. Woodburn, the Convention proceeded to ballot for a candidate for Surveyor-General. The first ballot resulted as follows, viz.:

Messrs. Abrams, Burns, Butler, Carmony, Durbin, Filler, Garvin, Galbraith, Gillis, Graham, Green, Hoge, Johnson, Lambert, Lamont, Lentz, Linton, M'Nenny, M'Laughlin, M'Guffin, Porter, Plumer, Phelps, Ritter, and Zimmerman, voted for J. P. Brawley—25.

Messrs. Anderson, Barnett, Buchanan, Gemmeil, Hursh, and Jacoby, voted for Samuel M. Bailey—5.

Messrs. Wm. T. Alexander, Applebaugh, Cutler, Dickerson, Gere, Goodrich, Hastings, Lyman, Maynard, Overfield, Stokes, Thompson, and Watson, voted for Timothy Ives—14.

Messrs. Jos. Alexander, Boies, Bullman, Carlton, Coolbaugh, Evans, Fausold, Jack, James, Keenan, Morris, Power, Seybert, Sletor, Spering, and Snodgrass, voted for Samuel L. Carpenter—17.

Messrs. Amwake, Bailey, Blattenberger, J. C. Dunlap, Henwood, M'Veigh, Pierce, Roat, and Woodburn, voted for Robert Kelly—8.

Messrs. Blair, Boon, Brewer, Canfield, Coyle, Donahue, Jno. M. Dunlap, Flittcraft, Frazer, Hickman, Houston, Laporte, Meylert, Moore, Scott, and Wilson, voted for Henry L. Dieffenbach—15.

Messrs. Black, Cooper, Crawford, Donaldson, Frost, Grayson, Hatfield, Kaine,

Lynch, M'Caslin, Magraw, Moore, Schull, Worthington, and Wright, voted for Major T. Watson—15.

Messrs. Brenner, Carpenter, Cullan, Fagan, and Uber, voted for James Miller—5.

Mr. J. K. Davis, voted for James Madden.

Messrs. Danner and Stewart, voted for Isaac Robinson.

Messrs. Dewart, W. Fullmer, J. S. Fullmer, and Koons, voted for Montgomery.

Messrs. Frailey, Harner, M'Cord, Sallada, Shoemaker, Schoonover, J. C. Smith, Tippin, and Weaver, voted for C. F. Jackson.

Messrs. Fogle, Fronk, Hutter, Geo. Smith, and Tyson, voted for Samuel Marx.

Messrs. Haviland and M'Allister, voted for Thomas Dailey.

Mr. W. C. Ward, voted for Alfred Hine.

Neither of the candidates having a majority of all the votes, there was no choice.

The following names were then withdrawn from the list of candidates, viz.:

Mr. Bailey withdrew the name of Kelly.

" Davis	"	"	Madison.
" Schoonover	"	"	Jackson.
" Overfield	"	"	Hine.
" Gemmill	"	"	Bailey.
" Dewart	"	"	Montgomery.
" M'Allister	"	"	Dailey.
" Carpenter	"	"	Miller.
" Danner	"	"	Robinson.

BALLOTS,	2d.	3d.	4th.	5th.	6th.
Brawley,	45	56	58	63	71
Carpenter,	32	42	47	47	56
Diffenbach,	27	32	25	16	withdrawn.
Watson,	11	withdrawn.			
Ives,	15	"			

CHANGES.

On the 2d ballot, Messrs. W. T. Alexander, Jos. Alexander, Brenner, Brewer, Cooper, Crawford, Fagan, Frailey, Frank, Harner, Sallada, Shoemaker, Schoonover, J. C. Smith, Geo. Smith, Tippin, Tyson, Uber, Weaver, Wilson, Woodburn, voted for J. P. Brawley.

Messrs. Anderson, Buchanan, Donahue, Jacoby, M'Cord, and Zimmerman, voted for T. Ives.

Messrs. Amwake, Baily, Barrett, Blattenberger, Danner, Davis, Dewart, W. Fullmer, Goodrich, Hickman, Kaine, Koons, M'Nenny, Magraw, Pierce, voted for H. L. Dieffenbach.

Messrs. Campbell, Carpenter, Cullan, J. C. Dunlap, J. S. Fullmer, Gemmill, Gere, Haviland, Henwood, Hursh, Hutter, M'Allister, M'Veigh, Overfield, Roat, Sletor, Stewart, and Ward, voted for S. L. Carpenter.

On the 3d ballot, Messrs. Anderson, Black, Blattenberger, Buchanan, Carlton, Hastings, Jacoby, M'Nenny, M'Cord, M'Caslin, Meylert, Maynard, Schull, Zimmerman, voted for Brawley.

Messrs. Baily, Danner, Dickerson, Donaldson, Fagan, Fogle, Frost, Hatfield, Koons, Lynch, J. Moore, Stokes, Worthington, voted for Carpenter.

Messrs. Applebaugh, Cutler, Donahue, Grayson, Green, Henwood, Lyman, Roat, Thompson, Watson, Wright, voted for Diffenbach.

On the 4th ballot, Messrs. Donahue, Frost, Gemmill, Hatfield, D. W. Moore, Power, voted for Brawley.

Messrs. Amwake, Boon, Cutler, Davis, Dunlap, Henwood, Hickman, Houston, Jacoby, Pierce, and Roat, voted for Carpenter.

Messrs. Black, Brewer, Donaldson, D. Lynch, Schull, voted for Diffenbach.

On the 5th ballot, Messrs. Bois, Brewer, Green, Henwood, Lynch, voted for Brawley.

Messrs. Barnett, Donaldson, Gemmill, Kaine, Magraw, Scott, Schull, for Carpenter.

Messrs. Hickman, Sallada, for Diffenbach.

On the 6th ballot, Messrs. Blair, Canfield, Cutler, Dewart, Fogle, Gemmill, Sallada, Stokes, Thompson, Watson, voted for Brawley.

Messrs. Black, Carlton, Coyle, Fullmer, Goodrich, Grayson, Hickman, Laporte, Lyman, Wright, voted for Carpenter.

Col. J. P. Brawley, of Crawford County, having received a majority of all the votes given, was proclaimed by the President duly nominated for the office of Surveyor-General.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, the nomination of Mr. Brawley was unanimously confirmed by the Convention.

On motion of Mr. Brewer, the following committee was appointed to wait on Mr. Brawley and inform him of his nomination, viz.: Messrs. Brewer, Watson, M'Caslin, Lambert, and Black.

On motion, the convention proceeded to the nomination of candidates for Auditor-General.

Mr. Donaldson nominated John B. Guthrie.		
Butler	"	Thos. J. Power.
J. Alexander	"	Ephraim Banks.
Cutler	"	Murray Whalon.
Koons	"	A. Beaumont.
M'Allister	"	Daniel L. Dougherty.
Anderson	"	Thomas Jamison.
Dewart	"	Wm. Forsyth.
Brewer	"	John Armstrong.
M'Caslin	"	Daniel Kaine.
Stewart	"	Daniel Shaeffer.

First Ballot.

Messrs. Joseph Alexander, Blair, Blattenberger, Bullman, Burns, Canfield, Campbell, Carlton, Coolbaugh, Cooper, Crawford, Donahue, J. C. Dunlap, Evans, Fogle, Gere, Jacoby, James, Johnson, Maynard, D. W. Moore, Power, Ritter, Schull, Shoemaker, Sletor, Uber, Ward, Wilson, Woodburn—30 voted for Ephraim Banks.

Messrs. Barnet, Black, Carmony, Coyle, Dickerson, Donaldson, Fagan, Fausold, Grayson, Hastings, Hickman, Jack, Keenan, Lambert, Lynch, M'Nenny, M'Laughlin, M'Veigh, Magraw, Moore, Morris, Pierce, Snodgrass, and Tippen—24 voted for J. B. Guthrie.

Messrs. Abram, Alexander, Brenner, Cullan, Cutler, Galbraith, Gillis, Green, Hogue, Hutter, Lamonte, Laporte, Lyman, Porter, Plumer, Phelps, and Thompson,—17 voted for Mr. Whalon.

Messrs. Bailey, J. S. Fullmer, Koons, Overfield, Roat, Seybert, Schoonover, Sperring, Worthington, Wright,—10 voted for Andrew Beaumont.

Messrs. Amwake, Boon, J. M. Dunlap, Frazer, Frost, Graham, Hatfield, Houston, M'Caslin, Scott, Stokes,—11 voted for Daniel Kane.

Messrs. Davis, Dewart, Frailey, W. Fullmer, Harner, Weaver, M'Cord,—7 voted for William Forsyth.

Messrs. Anderson, Buchanan, Gemmill, Hursh, Watson,—5 voted for Mr. Jamison.

Messrs. Henwood, Haviland, M'Alister,—3 voted for A. E. Dougherty.

Messrs. Danner, and Stewart,—2 voted for Mr. Shaeffer,

Mr. Brewer,—1 voted for Mr. Armstrong.

Messrs. Bois, Butler, Durbin, Filler, Fronk, Garvin, Lentz, Linton, M'Guffin, Sallada, J. C. Smith, G. Smith, Tyson,—13 voted for T. J. Power.

Second Ballot.

Banks,	67
Guthrie,	40
Whalon,	12
Beaumont,	9

CHANGES.

On the 2d ballot, Messrs. Abrams, Anderson, Amwake, Brenner, Buchanan, Butler, Carpenter, Danner, Davis, Dewart, J. M. Dunlap, Durbin, Filler, Frailey, W. Fullmer, Gemmill, Goodrich, Harner, Haviland, Henwood, Hogue, Hursh,

Lambert, Laporte, Lentz, Linton, Lyman, M'Nenny, Porter, Plumer, Sallada, Schoonover, J. C. Smith, G. Smith, Stewart, Tippen, Tyson, Weaver, Watson,—voted for Banks.

Messrs. Bois, Boon, Brewer, Callahan, Frank, Frost, Graham, Hatfield, Hueston, Kaine, M'Allister, M'Caslin, Meylert, M'Guffin, Scott, Stokes, Worthington, Wright, Zimmerman, voted for Guthrie.

Mr. M'Cord voted for Mr. Whalon.

Messrs. Garvin and Hutter, for Mr. Beaumont.

A majority of all the votes given being in favour of Hon. Ephraim Banks, of Mifflin County, he was declared by the President duly nominated for the office of Auditor-General.

On motion of Mr. Thompson, the nomination of Mr. Banks was unanimously confirmed by the Convention.

On motion of Mr. Dewart, the following committee was appointed to wait on Mr. Banks, and inform him of his nomination, viz.: Messrs. Dewart, Carlton, Maynard, Filler, and Blattenberger.

Mr. Frazer, from the Committee on Resolutions, made report as follows, viz.:

The Democracy of Pennsylvania, by her delegates in State Convention assembled, do hereby resolve as follows:

That the doctrines and principles of Democracy, as asserted by the National Democratic Convention at Baltimore, in May, 1844, and May, 1848, we still warmly recognise and support, and pledge ourselves, as representatives of the Democracy of Pennsylvania, not to yield or give up any portion of that broad and constitutional platform, covering the entire extent of the Union, and which is as follows:

"1. That the Federal Government is one of limited powers, derived solely from the Constitution, and the grants of powers shown therein ought to be strictly construed by all the departments and agents of the government; and that it is inexpedient and dangerous to exercise doubtful constitutional powers.

"2. That the Constitution does not confer upon the General Government the power to commence and carry on a general system of internal improvements.

"3. That the Constitution does not confer authority upon the Federal Government, directly or indirectly, to assume the debts of the several states, contracted for local internal improvements, or other state purposes; nor would such assumption be just and expedient.

"4. That justice and sound policy forbid the Federal Government to foster one branch of industry to the detriment of another, or to cherish the interests of one portion to the injury of another portion of our common country; that every citizen and every section of the country has a right to demand and insist upon an equality of rights and privileges, and to complete and ample protection of persons and property from domestic violence or foreign aggression.

"5. That it is the duty of every branch of the government to enforce and practise the most rigid economy in conducting our public affairs, and that no more revenue ought to be raised than is required to defray the necessary expenses of the government, and for the gradual but certain extinction of the debt created by the prosecution of a just and necessary war, after peaceful relations shall have been restored.

"6. That Congress has no power to charter a National Bank; that we believe such an institution one of deadly hostility to the best interests of the country; dangerous to our republican institutions and the liberties of the people, and calculated to place the business of the country within the control of a concentrated money power, and above the laws and the will of the people; and that the results of Democratic legislation, in this and all other financial measures upon which issues have been made between the two political parties of the country, have demonstrated to candid and practical men of all parties their soundness, safety, and utility in all business pursuits.

"7. That Congress has no power under the Constitution to interfere with or control the domestic institutions of the several states, and that such states are the sole and proper judges of everything appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the Constitution; that all efforts of the Abolitionists or others made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery, or to take incipient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences; and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people, and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend of our political institutions.

"8. That the separation of the moneys of the government from banking institutions is indispensable for the safety of the funds of the government and the rights of the people.

"9. That the liberal principles embodied by Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence, and sanctioned in the Constitution, which makes ours the land of liberty, and the asylum of the oppressed of every nation, have ever been cardinal principles in the Demo-

cratic faith; and every attempt to abridge the present privilege of becoming citizens and the owners of soil among us, ought to be resisted with the same spirit that swept the alien and sedition laws from our statute books.

Resolved, That the proceeds of the public lands ought to be sacredly applied to the national objects specified in the Constitution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution of such proceeds among the States, as alike inexpedient in policy and repugnant to the Constitution.

Resolved, That we are decidedly opposed to taking from the President the qualified Veto power, by which he is enabled, under restrictions and responsibilities, amply sufficient to guard the public interest, to suspend the passage of a bill whose merits cannot secure the approval of two-thirds of the Senate and the House of Representatives until the judgment of the people can be obtained thereon, and which has saved the American people from the corrupt and tyrannical domination of the Bank of the United States, and from a corrupting system of general internal improvements.

Resolved, That in the recent development of this grand political truth, of the sovereignty of the people and their capacity and power for self-government, which is prostrating thrones and erecting republics on the ruins of despotism in the old world, we feel that a high and sacred duty is devolved, with increased responsibility, upon the Democratic party of this country, as the party of the people, to sustain and advance among us constitutional liberty, equality, and fraternity, by continuing to resist all monopolies and exclusive legislation for the benefit of the few at the expense of the many, and by a vigilant and constant adherence to those principles and compromises of the Constitution which are broad enough and strong enough to embrace and uphold the Union as it was, the Union as it is, and the Union as it shall be, in the full expansion of the energies and capacity of this great and progressive people."

Resolved, That, as Pennsylvanians, our whole country is alike dear to us; we have no sectional feelings—we know no North, no South, no East nor West. And this great state, occupying her central position, can countenance no disaffection to that Union, now expanding from ocean to ocean.

Resolved, That attempts to create prejudice against any section of the Union, or the institutions they have established for themselves, is, in our opinion, *Anti-American*, and fraught with the most dangerous tendencies; and, impressed with these sentiments, we shall cordially rejoice at, and approve of, such compromise of the existing controversy as will secure the constitutional rights of every portion of the Union, and put to rest the spirit of discord now so fearfully destroying the fraternal regard of the country; and with this view we approve of the admission of California as a State, with her present constitution and boundaries; and we believe it to be the duty of Congress, at the same time, to provide governments without delay for the new territories of Utah and New Mexico, on the principles of *non-intervention*, thus disposing for ever, in a just and equitable manner, of the embarrassing subject of domestic servitude.

Resolved, That we will yield to none in our devotion to, and warm, zealous and cordial support of the Union, and we will defend, preserve, and protect it at every risk, at every hazard, and at every sacrifice; and we *believe* that, as Americans, proud of our great country, we cannot too warmly commend to the consideration of our countrymen, the farewell injunctions of the FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY, expressed in the following prophetic language: "TO CHERISH A CORDIAL, HABITUAL AND IMMOVABLE ATTACHMENT TO IT, ACCUSTOMING OURSELVES TO THINK AND SPEAK OF IT AS OF THE PALLADIUM OF OUR POLITICAL SAFETY AND PROSPERITY; WATCHING FOR ITS PRESERVATION WITH JEALOUS ANXIETY; DISCOURTEANCING WHATEVER MAY SUGGEST EVEN A SUSPICION THAT IT CAN, IN ANY EVENT, BE ABANDONED; AND INDIGNANTLY FROWNING UPON THE FIRST DAWNING OF EVERY ATTEMPT TO ALIENATE ANY PORTION OF OUR COUNTRY FROM THE REST, OR TO ENFEEBLE THE SACRED TIES THAT NOW LINK TOGETHER THE VARIOUS PARTS."

Resolved, That the National Administration, notorious for its want of energy and ability, for its prodigality in squandering the public moneys—the payment of illegal claims to its own officers and cabinet; rewarding favourites against the solemn and oft-repeated pledges of its head, before election; by unusual and unheard-of proscription; by its inaction in regard to the necessary protection of the new Territories, denying them the benefit of all government whatever; by their repeated blunders in regard to our foreign intercourse; have but too truly realized what the Democracy predicted of them prior to election, and what the country mourns to realize since that event.

Resolved, That the State Administration, true to the abandonment of previous pledges, has been distinguished only by a factious and illiberal policy, reversing and overthrowing, as far as possible, the wise and beneficent measures of the late

Democratic Administration of the lamented Shunk, and fixing upon the Commonwealth an odious system of corporate and irresponsible monopolies, as well as using the Veto power for party purposes; indicate unerringly that *our* great and good Commonwealth should return to its Democratic policy, the only true conservative principle of the Constitution and of the freedom of the people.

Resolved, The Committee being unable to agree in favour of a permanent time and place for holding future Democratic State Conventions, respectfully suggest to the Convention that the next Convention be held at Reading, Berks County, on the first Wednesday of June, 1851.

Resolved, That we recommend to this Convention hereafter to dispense with the Senatorial Delegates, and elect Representative Delegates only.

Resolved, That our candidates this day put in nomination, viz.: WM. T. MORISON, for Canal Commissioner; Col. J. PORTER BRAWLEY, for Surveyor-General, and EPHRAIM BANKS, for Auditor-General, are standard-bearers that the Democracy can follow with confidence; that in them the great qualities for office is to be found, "honesty and capability," and worthy of the warm and hearty support of the Democracy of the State.

Resolved, That we will use all honourable means in our power for the success of our candidates, and we can confidently say, to our respective constituencies; that never were auspices more favourable for success to our cause than the present, and we confidently expect by vigilance, to realize for them an old-fashioned Pennsylvania majority of at least twenty thousand.

Resolved, That we tender the thanks of this Convention to the commissioners of Lycoming County for the use of the Court-House; and to the committee of arrangement and others, for their care and attention to the comforts and wants of the Convention while in session.

The above resolutions having been, on motion of Mr. Brewer, read the second time—

Mr. Penniman moved that they be read *seriatim*; which was agreed to.

The first six resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

The seventh resolution in relation to slavery, being under consideration,

Mr. Penniman moved to amend by striking out from the sentence commencing "that all efforts of the abolitionists," the words "*or others.*"

Mr. Magraw (President) moved an amendment to the amendment, so as to strike out the seventh resolution reported by the committee, and insert in lieu thereof the resolution adopted by the Democratic Convention at Pittsburg in 1849, in relation to excluding slavery from the territories. Mr. M. having obtained leave, addressed the Convention at some length. He (Mr. M.) said that the resolution which he now offered as an amendment, was passed by a very large vote on the 4th of July, 1849, in the Pittsburg Convention, and when the gentleman talked of the success of the Baltimore platform, he would refer him—

Mr. Frazer.—I rise to a point of order. [Excitement.]

Mr. Magraw—I have a right to offer this resolution.

A Delegate.—(Vociferously.) Is it in order to call the previous question? [No answer and great confusion.]

Mr. Magraw.—I have got the floor, and intend to keep it. [An indignant shout of "Oh! don't put the gag on; you ought to be ashamed of yourselves!"]

Mr. Magraw.—Fight it out! fight it out! (wordily of course.) Let the language of the resolution be changed, if it be wrong. Last year, during the contest for Canal Commissioner, the free soil question was made a direct issue in many parts of the State, and Gamble was elected on that issue by a large majority. And, we had a letter from that gentleman, setting forth that the Wilmot proviso was a Jefferson doctrine, and perfectly constitutional. The gentleman had talked about Northern disunionists; now he (Mr. M.) would turn his attention to the Nashville Convention, called to secure the rights of the South by a concert of action. Then, again, let him look to Washington, at which place the Southern States proposed to establish a paper—a powerful engine—devoted exclusively to the interests of the South, and the propagation and extension of slavery. [Applause.] As for the disunionists, either of the South or the North, he had no sympathy with them. He would ask the gentleman what was the conduct of his southern allies in 1848, when in the Baltimore Convention, General Commander, Mr. Yancey and Mr. Moses, defied the whole nation in their chivalrous and overbearing advocacy of southern interests. Then, it will be remembered that while

General Commander alone cast the whole vote of South Carolina, the Empire State—the great State of New York—was thrown out of that Convention, disfranchised, and not allowed to take any part in it. But notwithstanding that we went into the contest in 1844, with the free-soil principles recognised as belonging to the party, yet the Democratic candidate for President at that time, was elected by a triumphant majority. And, he would ask the gentleman from Erie to compare the result of the contest upon the platform of 1848, with the vote of 1844, and he will find that although the South had her own candidate, she fell short more than 50,000 votes of the number that was cast for James K. Polk, notwithstanding the great increase of the population in four years. [Applause]. What, right, then, had southern politicians to expect of us either sympathy, or submission? Look at the Clay Compromise. How had he been met? Had he been met with the aid of the South? No, nothing of the sort, but with its rank and determined opposition. The last news received from Washington was, that Mr. Clay had abandoned his Compromise in effect. [Cheers.] In reply to an interrogatory put to him the other day by a Senator from Virginia, whether or not he would persist in the extension of the Missouri Compromise line over the territory of New Mexico and California, in case all the Senators from the South united in opposing it? Mr. Clay replied that he was not prepared to say he would do so. Now, he would tell the gentleman, who was a lawyer, that the Missouri Compromise contained the principles of free-soil. And yet the gentleman came into this Convention, and decries the right of Congress to legislate on the subject of excluding slavery from territories now free. We had a precedent for this right in the Ordinance of 1787, and which had remained inviolate and unshaken, since the days of Jefferson. We had the signature of President Polk to the Oregon bill, and if we had the right to prohibit slavery in Oregon, why not beyond it? He would ask if there was a man in free Pennsylvania who was slave enough, while Congress possessed the full right to prohibit slavery in the territories, to go with the South to extend the area of human bondage? Where was the man bold enough and bad enough to say that he was in favour of the extension of human slavery into our territories now free? The committee had been hatching these resolutions for three days, and we had at last got them. He had the highest respect for Judge Thompson, and would, in conclusion, read his opinions, as they presented an argument far better than he (Mr. Magraw) could make. [Here Mr. M. read a free-soil letter of Judge Thompson, dated Erie, September, 1848.]

Hon. James Thompson replied that there was not a word in the resolutions contradicting a single word in the letter which the gentleman had just read. He (Mr. T.) had asserted heretofore that Congress has a right to prohibit slavery in territories now free, and he made the same assertion now. He adhered to the principles he had always advocated. He left it to the Convention to say whether it was better to admit Utah and New Mexico, or to endanger the Union. And he would tell the gentleman that, on the subject of the power of Congress, he entertained no doubt, and never did. He asserted nothing to the contrary, and never would. The question of exercising the power may be a question of expediency.

Mr. Magraw had hoped, because he was familiar with the views of the gentleman from Erie, and he relied on his candour, as well as his consistent advocacy of the doctrine—both in private, and in his published letter—that he would have embodied his sentiments, in opposition to the majority of the Committee, in a minority report. But he had not done it. He (Mr. M.) recollected that in 1846 the gentleman was an advocate of the Jefferson ordinance; and let him say to this Convention, that the gentleman had as much to do in bringing forward the Wilmot proviso as David Wilmot himself. (Applause.) And, when he had reiterated his views in his letter in 1848, he (Mr. M.) had hoped those views would have been embraced in a minority report on this occasion. He thought he was justified now in saying that the gentleman had changed his opinions since he had written the letter which he (Mr. M.) doubted not obtained him a seat in Congress. He had hoped the gentleman would not have abandoned his former position. True, the gentleman had a right to change his opinions, and so had Valentine Best, or any other individual; but the gentleman, as a man of acknowledged influence and character, should be compelled to come out and let us know if he had changed his principles or not. (Great and enthusiastic applause.) The Pittsburg resolution, adopted in 1849, he would now add, was moreover fortified by

the letter of Mr. Gamble. If success was to govern the action of this body, then, as Democrats, they ought to be consistent. If the resolution did not embrace in itself the true Democratic doctrine, then let it be changed. If wrong then, let us be right now. Let us be consistent. (Applause.)

The Hon. James Thompson replied, amidst great excitement and confusion, in favour of the report of the Committee, and in defence of his course, which he declared was unchanged and perfectly consistent. He then proceeded to say, that the Mexican government, in 1829, abolished slavery in that country, and the Mexican Congress had reaffirmed that act in 1836,—therefore no slavery could be introduced into the new territories of Utah and New Mexico without an affirmative act to admit it. These were the sentiments and opinions of Mr. Webster, Mr. Clay, and General Cass. Did the gentleman mean to insinuate that he (Mr. T.) would vote for the extension of slavery? No man should do that, neither here nor elsewhere. He had never done it—he never would do it. The honourable gentleman concluded with some remarks upon the great value of the Union, and the importance of preserving it by pursuing a conciliatory and compromising course. (Enthusiastic applause.)

Mr. Magraw here withdrew his amendment (resolution), stating, at the same time, that he did so because he perceived there was a diversity of sentiment among delegates as to the propriety of adopting it.

Mr. Frazer followed in support of the report of the Committee, and in reply to Mr. Magraw. The gentleman (said Mr. F.) has attempted to place us in a position we do not occupy, which I will not permit whilst I can reply. The rights of a state and territory are clear and distinct, and the powers of Congress equally so; and, without the Constitution confers upon that body the jurisdiction now claimed, *expressly and clearly*, the *Proviso legislation* (*unmeaning as it ever has been, save for evil*) would be, if successful, a flagrant usurpation of power. I differ directly with Judge Thompson as to the power of Congress to legislate on this subject *over the territories*. Surely there are no words in the Constitution that confer it. And again, who would contend that Congress *now* could establish *slavery* in *Minnesota or Oregon*? Who, among those from the Northern, Western, and Middle States, where this domestic servitude does not exist, but *would and do deny any such authority* in Congress? The mere statement of the proposition carries its refutation. Then, if Congress cannot *establish the institution*—is devoid of *constitutional authority*—how, I would ask, can she prohibit it? The territories are the *common property* of the nation,—the *common treasure*, obtained, like the *Union*, “*in a common cause*,” by “*joint counsels, joint efforts, by common dangers, sufferings, and successes*.” Surely the citizens of *every state* have an equal right to participate therein, and settle there with their families, *servants*, and property. No wonder that the people of the Southern States rise up *unanimously* against this attempt to deprive them of their constitutional rights. This common soil is open to all; and the *people*, the *Democracy* of the *territory*, will soon settle the question themselves in the *territory*, and in the *state*, when it is formed *therein*. This *sovereign power* can only be exercised by the *sovereign people*; and, as the majority there decide *for or against domestic servitude*, so it must be. Were I a *citizen of the territory or state*, I would vote against it, but I *could and would not* deprive my neighbour of voting for it; and, *if in the minority*, I must submit or remove away. I am not for its extension; but I will not take away from any citizen of this Union, nor can Congress, his constitutional rights of *emigration, with servants and property, and voting according to his own sovereign will and pleasure, in the territory to which he may go*. This is the doctrine of the *Democracy*—the great measure of *non-intervention*—so nobly advocated and manfully sustained by the *statesman and patriot, Cass*, in the Senate of the nation, in his great speech of the 21st and 22d of January last. It will triumph, and he will triumph, and this great constitutional measure, of union and freedom, will save and harmonize this nation, and, like the bow set in the clouds, will be prophetic of our enduring constitutional covenant among the American States, firm as their mountains of rock, and lasting as the oceans that wash the shores of the mighty continent over which they expand. (Great applause.)

This Convention, representing the entire Democracy of Pennsylvania, now responding warmly and cheeringly to these sentiments, causes my heart to thrill with delight; and I am rejoiced to say, that now, with but few exceptions in our ranks, they are the unanimous voice of the party throughout the Commonwealth. Here let me do justice to the report on our Federal relations made in our last

Legislature by the Hon. Andrew Beaumont, the Representative from Luzerne, in which the same doctrines are ably advocated and sustained by this pure-minded Cato and veteran in the Democratic cause. And I cannot pass by the able speech of the Hon. Thomas Ross, *the Representative in Congress from the Bucks and Lehigh district* in the House of Representatives at Washington, on this same important subject. It is well worthy the perusal of every patriotic Pennsylvanian, and is a high honour to its gallant author. (Applause.) *This Wilmot Proviso has been omnipotent for evil to the Democratic cause; has divided our ranks, wherever it had many advocates; has sacrificed all our leading measures to this one bald idea, and been of no service, even to its friends, but of great advantage and usefulness to the common Federal enemy, in helping them to triumph, and to place in power a slaveholding President, and elevate to high places the revilers of Andrew Jackson, the very men who spit upon and traduced Van Buren in the days of his Democracy, and who triumphed over him, with demoniac glee, in the hard cider campaign of 1840.* (Cheers.)

It was introduced into Congress in time of war, placed as a Proviso to that *with which it had no connexion*;—was attempting to anticipate the acquisition of new territory; legislate for unacquired possessions; throw a firebrand into Congress; distract the nation, and impede the passage of war-measures, and delay the advance of our victorious troops in Mexico; thus adhering morally to the enemies of our country in time of war, and “giving them aid and comfort.”

Its author, by his own true and sincere friends, was implored to desist; to lay it aside, and to let it rest. He was young, rising into eminence, and truly eloquent;—had advocated alone from Pennsylvania in Congress, the passage of the tariff of 1846, stood high before the country, *with distinction and usefulness awaiting him in the future*; it was a matter of deep regret to those who knew and admired him, that he should be led away. All that friends could do was exercised to save him, but nothing could stop *his mad career*. In the Presidential election of 1848, he deserted the Democratic cause; voted for the candidate of a Convention, where blacks were suffered to participate; divided his own county, and gave Taylor 1500 majority, in a region where Clay was beat nearly 600 by Polk. (Much applause.) In Congress, last winter, he voted against the Democratic candidate for Speaker, supported Root, Giddings, and others, the most bitter enemies the Democratic party ever had, and assisted to delay the organization of the house for weeks. But he is gone;—joined to his idols;—yet I think he will find, when too late, that the Democracy can do much better without him, than he without the Democracy. (Laughter and applause.) I cannot here desist in referring to Martin Van Buren. A short time since he was high in our affections; enjoying the confidence and respect of the whole American Democracy, and elevated by them to the highest station on earth: and although defeated in 1840, was still a favourite, and looked up to with respect and veneration by all. In an evil hour he turns round, takes a nomination from a convention of abolitionists and their kindred allies, placed on the ticket with the heir of Braintree, opposing the very Democracy who had made him all he was or ever could be, not receiving a single electoral vote, but causing the success of the enemy, and the defeat of his former great party; and like Arnold after his treason, at New London, when the “red-coat” was on his back, fired upon the glorious Democracy, who in 1832 and 1836 elevated him to the Vice-Presidency and Presidency of the Republic, with the steady vote of chivalrous, noble, and SOUTHERN VIRGINIA, if you please, always cast for him. Out, out upon such dark ingratitude!!! (Bursts of applause.) We can truly say of him,

———“Living, shall forfeit fair renown,
And doubly dying, shall go down
To the vile dust from whence he sprung,
Unwept, unhonoured, and unsung.” (Cheers.)

But we have the *Pittsburg platform*, offered as a substitute for the national platform now before the Convention. SUCH A PLATFORM, why, it is too narrow for even a Free Soiler to stand straight up full length upon. (Laughter.) The Pittsburg Convention should have discarded it at once.

Yet, we are told, we were victorious under it last fall; that our victory was caused by it. How ridiculous! It was the giant-strength of an aroused Democracy, determined to succeed and bring Pennsylvania back again to her old position, that caused our triumph, irrespective of the departure of the Pittsburg Convention from the national code.

The only true course is to hold a *national creed*. (A voice, "It is, it is.") It will continue, whilst *sectional views* or *dogmas* can never prevail. I recognise no *Pennsylvania Democracy*; no *Northern* or *Southern Democracy*, but *American Democracy!! Jeffersonian Democracy!!* that noble, *inspiring Democratic faith* that is *alike acceptable* along the granite hills of New Hampshire, the mountains of Pennsylvania, the shores of Virginia, the sands of Carolina, the levees of Louisiana, the banks of the Mississippi, the prairies of Illinois, the shores of Michigan, the woods of Iowa, the gold mines of California, and the valley of the Oregon. That inspires us with the nobleness of self-respect, breaks the chain of the oppressor, vindicates the right of self-government, raises MAN from the earth, and teaches him to walk proudly erect, with no superior but that all-wise Creator, whose image he bears and whose breath he breathes. (Reiterated applause.) Let us hold to this creed; *it is from our fathers*; under it, *our institutions have prospered*; new states added to the confederacy, now spreading from ocean to ocean; and one bright star after another appearing in the canopy of freedom; thus forming a UNION, whose bright example is destined to overthrow kings and thrones, and free the world from bondage.

When Pennsylvania sets up a measure or movement in opposition to the National Democracy, she is always in the wrong. Witness the Bank and Tariff questions, and the state candidate in 1832 for Vice-President. We must stand with our brethren of the Union, and go with "*the Democracy of the Union for the sake of the Union.*" Pennsylvania can have no interests that conflict with the prosperity of the whole nation. We must become prosperous, through the prosperity of the country at large. The people found this out, when they strayed off on the Tariff question, and it required the unflinching firmness of Vice-President Dallas, a national patriot and a national Democrat, to set Pennsylvania right with his fearless, and noble, and casting vote. (Immense applause.) Just so this free soil heresy leads men imperceptibly away from patriotism and Democracy. (A voice, "So it does.")

It took the Roman firmness of another great man, to set the mark of the national creed. The country found him in *Lewis Cass*, the Democratic candidate in our last campaign. (Cheers.) It is men, such as he—*national men and national Democrats—who are our towers of strength* in the times of peril and danger.

But I am accused by the gentleman (Mr. Magraw) of *loving the South*. *Loving the South!!* My country—my countrymen!! American freedom, and freedom's own land!! I plead guilty to the accusation, if accusation it be; and if I did not love the *whole South* as well as *my whole country* (applause), I would be unworthy of the name of *American*; unworthy of its glory, and for ever unworthy of these great blessings enjoyed by no other people on earth. When I forget Jamestown, Braddock's Field, Yorktown, Virginia, the Tenth Legion, Monticello, Mecklenburg, Eutaw, Charleston, Savannah, Orleans, and San Jacinto, THEN WILL I CEASE TO LOVE THE SOUTH. When I can forget WASHINGTON, THE FATHER OF MY COUNTRY; *Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence*; *Madison, the father of the Constitution*; *Patrick Henry, the opponent of the Stamp Act*; *Giles, Randolph, John Marshall, Macon, Marion, Will, Washington, Moultrie, Laurens, Pinckney, Jackson, and his veto of the Monster Bank, then, and not till then, will I, can I ever forget my noble countrymen of the much-abused, much-injured, yet heroic, dauntless, and patriotic American South.* (Enthusiastic and long-continued applause.)

The question being taken on Mr. Penniman's amendment, it was *rejected*.

And the seventh resolution was agreed to.

The remaining resolutions were unanimously agreed to, except the last one, in relation to Senatorial representations in State Conventions, which was lost.

Mr. Barnett offered the following resolution, which was twice read and adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the present revenue laws of the general government are just and fair in their operation upon all the great interests of the country, and we would regard any deviation from the principles upon which they are based as unwise and impolitic; any alterations that time and circumstances may require in their details, we are willing to submit to the patriotism and wisdom of the Democratic party of the Union.

Mr. Thompson offered the following:

Resolved, That this Convention take this occasion to express to the citizens of Williamsport their most cordial thanks for the kind reception they have extended

to them, and assure them that they will bear away with them, and long cherish, the most pleasing recollections of them, and their beautiful borough.

Mr. Johnson offered the following resolution, which was twice read and adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the officers of the Convention are entitled to the thanks of this body, for the able and impartial manner in which they have discharged their duty.

Mr. Lauman offered the following resolution, which was twice read and disagreed to, viz.:

Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the State Central Committee to give notice that the delegates to the National Convention, for May, 1852, will be appointed at our next State Convention.

Mr. Anderson, from the committee to inform Mr. Morison of his nomination as a candidate for Canal Commissioner, reported, that the committee had performed that duty, and that Mr. M. accepted the nomination with a full appreciation of the honour conferred by the confidence reposed in him by the members of this Convention.

Similar reports were made by the committees to wait upon Mr. Banks and Mr. Brawley.

On motion of Mr. Sallada, the recommendation attached to the report of the committee on resolutions, naming the city of Reading as the place for holding the Democratic State Convention, on the first Wednesday of June, 1851, was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Blattenberger, the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

REMARKS.

The Williamsport Convention will long remain in the brightest recollection of all who were present to witness the variety of its incidents.

The region of the West Branch of the Susquehanna, in point of beauty and fertility combined, is nowhere equalled in Pennsylvania; and, after passing through it, filled with admiration at the magnificence of the scenery and nature in all her loveliness, the delegates and others who attended the Convention met in Williamsport,—a community who, in all that bespeaks kindness of heart, with refinement and elevation of character, are not surpassed by the people of any other place in this great commonwealth.

We feel assured that no more can possibly be said than is merited in commendation of the attention and hospitality of those who, to render comfortable the crowd consequent upon the assemblage, opened their own doors and spread their bountiful boards during the entire session. Words cannot express more on that subject than would find a ready and full response in the bosom of every one who was present at the Convention.

Williamsport is romantically and beautifully situated, is regularly laid out in streets at right angles, has about three thousand inhabitants, six neat and elegant churches, a splendid court-house with tasteful grounds and groves about it, a fine college, several large and excellent hotels, and numerous private dwellings, which will compare favourably with any in the commonwealth, and *society* that, for morality, taste, and refinement, cannot be excelled anywhere.

Among those who were constant in their exertions to entertain and delight, we may mention General William F. Packer, Hon. Judge Anthony, Hon. J. W. Maynard, General D. W. Loyd, Colonel H. B. Packer, Colonel S. B. Beck, Colonel Caldwell, H. M'Clure, Esq., O. Watson, Esq., L. F. Cowen, Esq., A. D. Wilson, Esq., R. Ferris, Esq., Sheriff Bennett, &c., &c., &c.

The principal hotels, viz., the "United States," "American," "Eagle," the "Mansion House," and the "Exchange," are all commodious and well conducted establishments, the respective hosts of which did everything to render their numerous guests comfortable and happy during the late memorable Convention.

Before closing our labours, we cannot be so discourteous as to forget the beautiful ladies of Williamsport, whose attention and kindness we sincerely and pleasurably felt, as did every gentleman with whom we conversed. We were gratified to learn that the ladies, who held a fair for the benefit of Christ Church, succeeded so handsomely. Among the most liberal contributors on the occasion was Mr. Ovenshine, of Philadelphia.

Three cheers were given for Williamsport—three for the ticket, and nine ringing cheers for the Union, and the War Horse, and Colonel Johnson of Lancaster.